

THE ATTENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2364.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1873.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

CHIEF ASSISTANT in the OBSERVATORY.
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—An Open Competition for one Situation will be held in London on the 15th of March next, and following days. A Preliminary Examination will be held in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, on TUESDAY, 15th of March. Candidates must be between 18 and 25 years of age. Application for the necessary Form should be made at once to the SECRETARY, Civil Service Commission, Cannon-row, London, S.W.

ARCHITECTS.—NOTICE.—The TRUSTEES
appointed by Sir JOHN SOANE will MEET at the MUSEUM, No. 13, Lincoln's Inn-fields, on MONDAY, the 24th of MARCH, at 11 o'clock at Noon, to distribute the Dividends which shall have accrued during the preceding year from the sum of 5,000. Reduced 31 per Cent. Bank Annuities, invested by the late Sir JOHN SOANE, among Distressed Architects, and the Widows and Children of deceased Architects, left in Distress or Distressed Circumstances.—Forms of application may be had at the Museum, and must be filled up and delivered there on or before MONDAY, the 10th of March, after which day no application can be received.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, BURLINGTON HOUSE.
The EXHIBITION of WORKS of the OLD MASTERS, together with WORKS of DECEASED ARTISTS of the BRITISH SCHOOL, in OIL, WATER COLOUR, and SCULPTURE, is NOW OPEN.—Admission, from 9 till dusk, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.; Season Ticket, 3s. JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL AMATEUR ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.
President.—H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, K.G.
NOTICE.—Members are informed that they may obtain Subscription Tickets for their Friends for the Three Remaining Concerts at the following rates:—
Amphitheatre, with Admission to the Arena for Promenade, 12s.
Balcony, with Admission to the Picture Gallery with Promenade, 6s.
The Next PRIVATE EVENING CONCERT of the Society will take place in the Royal Albert Hall, on WEDNESDAY, March 5, at 8.30 p.m.
By order of the Committee of Management,
ALAN S. COLE, Hon. Sec.

ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES, Jermyn-street.
Professor RAMSAY, LL.D. F.R.S., will commence a Course of Thirty-six LECTURES on GEOLOGY on MONDAY NEXT, the 17th of February, at 8 o'clock, to be continued on each succeeding Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Monday, at the same hour. Fee for the Course, 3s.
Professor GOODVE, M.A., will also commence a Course of Thirty-six LECTURES on APPLIED MECHANICS on TUESDAY NEXT, the 18th inst., at 11 o'clock, to be continued on each succeeding Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Tuesday, at the same hour. Fee for the Course, 3s.
TRENHAM REEKS, Registrar.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.
THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING of this Society will be held at the Society's Apartments, Somerset House, on FRIDAY, February 21st, at One o'clock; and the ANNUAL DINNER will take place the same Evening, at WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street, St. James's, at Six o'clock.
Members and Visitors intending to dine are requested to leave their Names at the Society's Apartments, or at Willis's Rooms.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY, 12, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.
TUESDAY, 18th inst., at 7.45 p.m.
PAPER, Mr. R. H. Inglis Palgrave, "On Bill Circulation, with some Banking Statistics."
ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND.
4, ST. MARTIN'S PLACE, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.
TUESDAY, 18th inst., at 8 o'clock p.m. Papers to be read:—1. 'Note on the Macas Indians,' by Sir John Lubbock, Bart. F.R.S. V.P.A.I. 2. 'On the Relation of the Parish Boundaries in the South-East of England to Great Physical Features, particularly to the Chalk Escarpment,' by W. Topley, Esq. F.G.S.
J. FRED. COLLINGWOOD, Secretary.

VICTORIA INSTITUTE.—MONDAY, 17th inst., at 8 o'clock, Mr. J. ELIOT HOWARD, F.L.S. M.B.S. of France.
On Scientific Facts.
8, Adelphi-terrace, Strand. F. PETRIE, Hon. Sec.

INSTITUTION OF NAVAL ARCHITECTS.
THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the INSTITUTION OF NAVAL ARCHITECTS will take place in APRIL NEXT.
Papers on the Principles of Naval Construction—on Practical Shipbuilding—on Marine Engineering—on Steam Navigation—on the Equipment and Management of Ships for Merchandise and for War, will be read at this Meeting. Naval Architects, Shipbuilders, Naval Officers of the Royal and Merchant Services, and Engineers, who propose to read Papers before the Institution, should send immediate notice of the Subject and Title of the Paper to the Secretary; and it is requested that the Paper itself, with Illustrative Drawings, may be deposited at the Offices of the Institution on or before the 1st of March next.
Candidates for Admission as Members, or as Associates, should send in their applications by the same date. The Annual Subscription of 2s. 2s. is payable on admission, and becomes due at the commencement of each succeeding year.
C. W. MERRIFIELD, Hon. Sec.
ADRIAN VIZETELLY, Assistant Sec.
9, Adelphi-terrace, London, W.C., Feb. 13, 1873.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION of 1873.
TENDERS are invited for the Privilege of taking and selling PHOTOGRAPHS, including Portraits of Visitors. Conditions may be obtained on application to the SECRETARY, Upper Kensington Gore, on and after the 15th of February. Sealed Tenders, marked "Photographs," must be sent in by Noon on 28th of February. Her Majesty's Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any Tender.
Feb. 6, 1873. HENRY D. SCOTT, Major-General, Secretary.

HIBBERT TRUST.—Two Scholarships will be awarded on this Foundation, after the next Examination, provided that Two Candidates are declared by the Examiners to be duly qualified. The next Examination will be held at University Hall, Gordon-square, London, on three consecutive days in November, 1873. Candidates must furnish satisfactory evidence of age, graduation, and other points, the particulars of which may be obtained on application to the SECRETARY of the Trust; and the Names and Addresses of all Candidates must be sent to the Secretary, at University Hall, on or before October 1st, 1873.
A. H. PAGET, Secretary.
University Hall, Gordon-square, Feb. 11, 1873.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, 43 and 45, Harley-street, W.
Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1833.
For the General Education of Ladies, and for granting
The HALF TERM for the College Classes will BEGIN on MONDAY, Feb. 24.—Prospectuses, with full particulars as to Fees, Subjects, Scholarships, &c., may be obtained on application to Miss Gower, at the College Office.
E. H. PLUMPTRE, M.A., Dean.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE SCHOOL, 43 and 45, HARLEY-STREET.
For the Education of Girls under 14.
The HALF TERM will BEGIN on MONDAY, Feb. 24.—Prospectuses, with full particulars, may be obtained on application to Miss Gower, at the College Office.
E. H. PLUMPTRE, M.A., Dean.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—June Matriculation.
Two Masters of University College School, who have had much experience and success, are forming EVENING CLASSES, to meet in GOWER-STREET, for the above and other Examinations.—Address M. A., care of Mr. Brydges, 137, Gower-street, W.C.

OXFORD and CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATIONS for WOMEN.
STUDENTS' LIBRARY.
A LIBRARY, intended for the use of Students for the above Examinations, but open also to any Lady desirous of availing herself of its advantages, has been established at Leeds. It is available for Students in any part of the kingdom, the books being forwarded by Book-post or Parcel Delivery. Annual Subscription, 1s. The Committee also pay the carriage of books one way.—Address Hon. Sec. Students' Library, 16, Hyde-terrace, Leeds.

TRAINING COURSE of LECTURES and LESSONS for TEACHERS.—COLLEGE of PRECEPTORS, 45, QUEEN-SQUARE, Bloomsbury, W.C.
The Council have appointed JOSEPH PAYNE, Esq., F.C.P., their First Professor of the Science and Art of Education. Courses of LECTURES in 1873, accompanied by Illustrative Lessons, Exercises, Expository Readings, Discussions, and Examinations, with the object of making Teachers familiar with the Principles, Practice, and History of Education. Certificates will be granted by the College to those who, after attending all the Three Courses, pass a satisfactory final Examination. For particulars apply at the COLLEGE. Fees, payable in advance, 2s. 6d. guineas, for the Three Courses; or 10s. guineas for any single Course.
JOHN R. O'NEILL, Secretary.

CLARENCE HOUSE SCHOOL, ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.
The Principal, who was for several years a Master in a Public School in London, receives a few Young Gentlemen to prepare for the Public Schools, the Civil Service, or for Commercial Life. Specially suited to those who, from delicate health or defective Education, require more individual care and attention than could be given in large Establishments. Highest references. Terms, 50 and 60 Guineas.—Address THE PRINCIPAL, as above.

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English Young Ladies entrusted to the care of Miss LINDNER will find the comforts of a home, careful and loving moral and religious training, superior Educational advantages.
References to Families of the highest respectability in England, and to the British Consulate at Frankfurt.
For particulars please apply to Miss LINDNER, 35, Mainzer Chaussee, Frankfurt.

BOARDING SCHOOL, conducted by Mr. and Mrs. GRANT, 35, Rue Pacais, BRUSSELS.
Terms, without extras, 40l. per annum. GOOD ENGLISH. Continental Languages, &c. by Professors.—Highest references on application.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—PARTICULAR ATTRACTIONS THIS DAY and NEXT WEEK.
SATURDAY (Feb. 15).—Sixteenth Saturday Concert, at 2.—First Day of Great Bird Show. Opens at 12.
MONDAY to THURSDAY.—Pantomime Interlude, 'Rosalie,' by the Payne Family, &c., at 3. Followed by the New Masque, 'Jack and Jill,' up to the Transformation Scene.—The Great Bird Show each day.
FRIDAY.—Pantomime Interlude (the Paynes), at 3. Followed by 'Jack and Jill' (Opening).
SATURDAY.—Seventeenth Saturday Concert, at 3.

The Fine Arts Courts and Collections, including the Picture Gallery (the Works on Sale), the Technological and Natural History Collections, all the various Illustrations of Art, Science, and Nature, and the Gardens and Park, always open. Music and Fountains Daily.
Admission, Monday to Friday, One Shilling; Saturdays, Half-Crown. Guinea Season Tickets, Free.

PRESS.—A Gentleman, in his 21st year, desires an ENGAGEMENT on a Newspaper (Metropolitan or Provincial) as READER and REPORTER, the latter fast, Verbatim. He has received a liberal Education, and has passed some time in a Printing-Office. Willing to make himself generally useful. A fair original Writer. Address H. W. F., St. Bride's Club, Wine-Office-court, Fleet-street, E.C.

DIED, on the 12th inst., at HILLHEAD, Lillybank, GLASGOW, JOHN BLACKIE, Junior, Esq., Publisher.

CHEVE METHOD.—Prof. ANDRADE's next LECTURES, explanatory of the above, will begin on SATURDAY, February 8, at the New Quebec Institute, Great Quebec-street, WEDNESDAY, the 15th, at Wilton House, 13, Trembridge-crescent, Baywater.—Admission by Cards.

CHEVE METHOD.—CLASSES and PRIVATE LESSONS in VOCAL MUSIC, PIANO, HARMONY, by a Lady fully qualified and permitted to refer to Mr. Amand Cheve, Paris, and Professor Andraze, London.—Address V. B., Edbrooke-road, St. Peter's Park, Paddington, W.

MUSICAL UNION RECORD of 1872 is this day published by W. RIDGWAY, Piccadilly, containing a List of 72 Pianists, and the Titles of Music chosen by them at their first Performance. Members having Nominations, to send Names and Addresses. Tickets will be issued in due time. Subscriptions by cheque to be paid to J. ELLA, 9, Victoria-square, S.W.

SIGNOR ALFONSO RENDANO HAS ARRIVED IN TOWN for the Season of the Pianoforte Instruction. Terms, address 33, Markham-square, King's-road, Chelsea, and Gramer & Co., Regent-street.

FOR A SHORT TIME ONLY.—On View, at the Gallery of the New British Institution, 20, Old Bond-street, PICTURES and DRAWINGS of the FORTY-NINE SCHOOL, from Rome, and other choice Works by eminent Artists, British and Foreign. Open MONDAY NEXT, 17th inst.

"WOMANKIND."—The Advertiser would be glad to hear of a LADY prepared to EDIT a Journal under the above title, devoted to the interests of Women, and willing to publish.—Address ALFRA, Ball, Stationer, 10, Castle-street, Oxford-street.

AMATEUR AUTHORS of ability may contribute to a Monthly Magazine, or obtain an introduction to the Public by other means. Particulars on receipt of stamped envelope.—Enrol, 25, Warwick-lane, Paternoster-row.

TO THEATRICAL MANAGERS.—The Author of an Original High-Class COMEDY (now being printed) would be glad to hear from the Manager of a first-class London House and Company.—Address X., 40, St. Peter's-square, Hammer-smith, W.

PARTNERSHIP.—An eligible opportunity for a Gentleman of Literary Tastes, with about 200l. at command. A knowledge of French, German, or Italian a desideratum. Letters for interview, E. M., 135, Mount-street, Berkeley-square.

LIBRARIAN.—The Advertiser wishes to obtain an Appointment as LIBRARIAN, Private or otherwise. Excellent references.—Address A. NICKLIN, 25, High-street, Stamford.

THERE is a VACANCY on the REPORTING STAFF of the NORTHAMPTON HERALD, for an active, intelligent Young Man. Commencing Salary, 80l. per annum.—Applications, with references to character and competency, addressed Editor, Herald Office, Northampton.

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A THOROUGHLY competent JOURNALIST and good Descriptive Writer is required as CORRESPONDENT at the VIENNA EXHIBITION for a Daily Newspaper.—Address full particulars to S. T. O., 13, St. Mary's-terrace, Paddington, W.

VIENNA EXHIBITION.—A Writer of experience and ability offers SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE upon very favourable terms. Has resided in Germany, and is well acquainted with the Language.—Address WIRE, care of Messrs. Robertson & Scott, Advertising Agents, Edinburgh.

A GENTLEMAN, under 30, of considerable Journalistic experience, and a thorough French scholar, who has travelled in France, Germany, and Africa, seeks an Engagement as Librarian, or in any other capacity where his services would be useful. Would have no objection to reside in the Country, or to go abroad.—W. K., 9, Adelphi-terrace, Strand.

WANTED, for PARIS, a most experienced ASSISTANT in the Bookbinding Business. Must be of good address, must have a thorough knowledge of Books and the Book Trade, and also be a good salesman, and capable of keeping an English Correspondence.—Address, stating terms, to B. Messrs. Simpkins, Marsh & Co., Stationers' Hall-court, London. Best references required.

TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS.—C. MITCHELL & CO. are desirous of investing, in a good Provincial Liberal Paper, about 2,000l. Also about 1,000l. in a Paper near the Metropolis. Thorough investigation of the property will be required. Agents for sale of transfer of Newspaper Property, 13 and 15, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street, E.C.

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TO PAPER-MAKERS.—WANTED, News, for Cash, quality about that of Times, size, 55 by 36. Lowest price, sample, &c. to Herald Office, West Hartlepool.

WOODCUTS or ELECTROTYPES WANTED, suitable for a religious Juvenile Magazine. Size not larger than 6 in. by 3 in.—Send proofs and price to Editors, 24, Trafalgar-square, Chelsea, London, S.W.

WHAT WILL THIS COST TO PRINT? A Packet, containing information for Authors, may be obtained on application to R. BARRETT & SONS, 13, Mark-lane, London.

MR. TENNANT, Geologist, 149, STRAND, London, W.C., can supply Elementary Collections of MINERALS, ROCKS, and FOSSILS, to illustrate the works on Geology by Leake, Jukes, Paley, and others, on the following terms:—
100 small specimens, in cabinet with 3 trays £3 2 0
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PHOTOGRAPHS of all kinds may be inspected and purchased. Collections of Photographs, &c., Re-arranged, Remounted, Bound, or Portfolios.
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THE VIENNA EXHIBITION.
MURRAY'S HANDBOOK ADVERTISER, for 1873. Annual Circulation, 15,000. Printed for the convenience of those who are desirous of communicating information to English and American Tourists, or Travellers in general, and inserted in the copies of Murray's Foreign and English Handbooks issued during the Travelling Season.
Advertisements, accompanied by a remittance, must be received by the 31st of MARCH, and as only a limited space is allotted, preference given to those more immediately addressed to Tourists.
John Murray, Albemarle-street.

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WILLIAMS & NORGATE'S SCIENTIFIC and MEDICAL BOOK CIRCULAR, No. 27. Post free, one stamp. (Natural History, Physics, Astronomy, Chemistry, Medicine, and Surgery.)
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Sales by Auction

A Collection of Old Porcelain, the Property of W. TROPENY, Esq.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS respectfully give notice that they will SELL by AUCTION, at their Great Rooms, King-street, St. James's-square, on THURSDAY, February 20, at 1 o'clock precisely, a Valuable COLLECTION of PORCELAIN, chiefly Old Oriental, the Property of WILLIAM TROPENY, Esq., of 46, Upper Grosvenor-street, comprising a very large quantity of fine old Japan and Enamel Dishes and Plates; also, Vases, Beakers, Bottles, Bowls, Cups, and other Ornamental pieces, all of fine quality, including Specimens from the Bechoford, Bernal, Alton Towers, and other celebrated Collections; also, a few Specimens of Old Dresden, Berlin, Worcester, Majolica, Glass, &c.

May be viewed two days preceding, and Catalogues had.

The Collection of Pictures of the late Right Hon. Lord DALLING and BULWER.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS respectfully give notice that they will SELL by AUCTION, at their Great Rooms, King-street, St. James's-square, on FRIDAY, February 21, at 1 o'clock precisely, the Valuable COLLECTION of PICTURES, by Old Masters, formed by the Right Hon. Lord DALLING and BULWER, deceased; also, a few Pictures from different private Collections.

May be viewed two days preceding, and Catalogues had.

The Works and Collection of RICHARD BUCKNER, Esq.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS respectfully give notice that they will SELL by AUCTION, at their Great Rooms, King-street, St. James's-square, on SATURDAY, February 22, at 1 o'clock precisely, the WORKS and COLLECTION of RICHARD BUCKNER, Esq.; comprising a Portrait of Garibaldi, and about 50 finished Pictures and Studies of Italian Pesante, about 50 copies from Old Masters, by J. D. Kennedy, and about 70 Ancient and Modern Pictures, including capital works of Guardi, Odoardo, C. Maratti, N. Poussin, Tiepolo, J. Northcote, R.A., Hurlstone, Smith of Chichester, Stothard, Singleton, Henry, Williams, Diaz, Desoulayre, Sketches by W. E. R. A.; also Engravings and Water-colour Drawings framed, Bontems, Terra-Cottas by Clodion and Pinelli, a Group in Marble by Gozzetti, Carvings in Ivory, Figures in Silver, Etruscan Vases, and 6 Pictures by Murillo, illustrating the life of St. Francis, from the Collections of the late Richard Ford, Esq., and Mr. Williams, of Seville.

May be viewed two days preceding, and Catalogues had.

The Select Library of RICHARD BUCKNER, Esq.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS respectfully give notice that they will SELL by AUCTION, at their Great Rooms, King-street, St. James's-square, on TUESDAY, February 25, at 1 o'clock precisely, the SELECT LIBRARY of RICHARD BUCKNER, Esq.; comprising many valuable Books in English, French, and Italian Literature, County Histories, Works on the Fine Arts, Architecture, Painting, Sculpture, Picture Galleries, &c., including Bartsch's Peinture Gravée, 74 vols.—Bewick's Birds, 2 vols. large paper—Classiques Françaises, 74 vols.—Classici Italiani, 25 vols.—Hasted's Kent, 15 vols.—Walton and Cotton's Angler, by Sir H. Nicolas, 2 vols. India proof—Dallaway's History of Sussex, 3 vols.—Museo Etrusco, 15 vols.—Caricature Drawings by Ghersi, Douglas, Nenia Britannica, Pinacoteca di Bologna, Rosini, Pirellotta, Romagné, &c.—Thornton's Nottinghamshire, 16 copy—11 Vaticano, 8 vols., &c.

May be viewed two days preceding, and Catalogues had.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1873.

LITERATURE

The Romance of Siamese Harem Life. By Mrs. Anna H. Leonowens. Illustrated. (Trübner & Co.)

In this readable book the author professes to supply an account of some of the more remarkable incidents which she met with while residing at the Court of Siam. Her style has manifestly improved since the publication of her former work, 'The English Governess at the Siamese Court'; and, in spite of occasional disfigurements, and not a few inaccuracies, which we shall notice by and by, we must at least allow her the merit of having produced a volume of much interest to the general reader, and some pictures of Oriental manners and character, marred, indeed, by high colouring, and by the omission of many prominent features, but still unfamiliar to the inhabitants of the West, and more illustrative of Eastern habits and phases of thought than anything which we have fallen in with elsewhere.

Of the thirty-two chapters which make up the volume, the first deals with the origin of the Siamese nation, their language, country, religion, and metropolis; six tales occupy the succeeding twenty-seven; the twenty-ninth is a chapter of anecdotes; in the thirtieth and thirty-first, the Siamese slave system, and its abolition by the reigning monarch, are minutely described; and appended to the volume is a legend from the local mythology concerning the gold and silver mines in Siam.

The author, in her Preface, tells us that "most of the stories, incidents, and characters are known to her personally to be real, while of such narratives as she received from others she can say, that 'she tells the tale as it was told to her,' and written down by her at the time." She adds that, in some cases, she has substituted fictitious names for real ones.

We have already characterized the book as a readable one. Even were the stories wholly imaginative, they would still be highly interesting, written as they are with great spirit, and containing many true touches of Oriental life; but, as the author herself describes them as so strange that she deems "it necessary to state that they are also true," the humble critic, who has had no opportunity of following her into the inner courts of the Palace, or of overhearing stolen interviews in prison cells by night, and who is greatly embarrassed in identifying the characters by the assumed names which she has bestowed upon them, may, perhaps, be forgiven, if, in the interests of truth, he attempts to check these thrilling narratives by such tests of accuracy as he has it in his power to apply, and by a general review of the exactitude of the author. Now, if any reader asks himself whether the cruel incidents detailed are all of them literally true, we would first remind him that in her previous work the author describes a trip which she says she made in person to the temples of Cambodia, and gives a minute account of their ruins. We, for our part, challenge her to state the month and year in which she visited those remains, and the names of any Europeans (for she calls it "our journey") who may have accompanied her thither.

Let us next examine the illustrations with which the present volume is adorned. They are seventeen in all, and Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 15 are photographs by Mr. Thomson, reproduced in engraving. These the author has made use of without a syllable of acknowledgment. Nos. 9, 12, and 14 are taken direct from 'Travels in the Central Parts of Indo-China,' by M. Mouhot, the late French naturalist, and are also unacknowledged. No. 6, which is described as "Palm-trees near the New Road, Bangkok," is a picture of some sugar-palms taken, not at Bangkok at all, but in the vicinity of Petchaburee; while No. 15, described as "The Queen of Siam," is a portrait of the reigning King of Cambodia in his robes of state, and was taken at Penompein, in the Cambodian province, in the early part of April, 1866.

It is our duty next to point to a few instances of manifest, we might almost say inexcusable, error; and if we succeed in bringing inaccuracy home to the author in the cases which we quote, we shall confidently leave it to the reader's own judgment to form an opinion upon other passages, the correctness of which it would be more difficult for us absolutely to disprove.

On page 4, she informs us that the River Meinam receives in its course the waters of the Mekhong, "which, in its length of nearly one thousand miles, drains the eastern provinces of Laos and Cambodia." Any one who will take the trouble to consult an atlas, will see that the Mekhong is by far the larger river of the two; that it nowhere joins the Meinam; that between these streams there is an independent river, known as the Meinam Prachin, discharging its waters into the Gulf of Siam. In point of fact, the watershed occurs beyond the town of Watsana, on the plains of southern Laos, down which the Prathabong river flows into the great Cambodian Lake. The Mekhong, as we need hardly add, discharges itself by many branches, not into the Gulf of Siam, but into the China Sea, under the promontory of Cape St. Jacques.

On page 46 we come across the statement "that all the Mohammedans in Bangkok are under British protection." This is wholly untrue; all the natives of British India who are settled in the capital of Siam are subjects of Great Britain, to whatever creed they belong, but the whole Mohammedan population there is reckoned by thousands, comprising Malays from the states in the peninsula tributary to Siam, and several other races.

On page 55 we are informed that a slave girl, after her escape from captivity, started at dawn for the house of "the merchant and his slave-woman Dhamni," and "it was evening," we are told, when she "entered the hut of the slave Dhamni, footsore, hungry, and weary." Now "the merchant" referred to is Nakodah Ibrahim, a British subject, and by law debarred from holding "slaves." Moreover, though the girl may have been hungry, and may have remained in hiding till night set in, she can hardly have been "footsore and weary," seeing that "the merchant" resided certainly not two miles, if as much, from the point at which she started on her journey.

On page 79 we find it recorded that a "brave warrior" is instantly rewarded "with a hundred pieces of gold"; and on page 103, "Duke"

Chow Phaya Mandtree is described as tendering "forty pieces of gold" to his vassal. The currency in Siam is silver; no payments are ever made in minted pieces of gold. A few gold coins, for ornament and presentation, are occasionally struck, but "one hundred," or even "forty pieces of gold," is an absolutely impossible statement. Rupees are used in the north, and the tical, a silver coin, worth about 2s. 6d., is the standard money of the capital. If gold is employed in commercial transactions at all, it is for making very large payments by the Chinese, and then in bars, or more commonly leaf.

Again, on page 122, the author describes herself as sitting at her window in Bangkok, and watching "the long shadows sleeping on the distant hills, and on the warm golden fields of waving corn." We should like her to tell us, if she can, which it was of the houses she occupied in Bangkok from which even mountains or rice-fields could be seen? On page 227, the value of certain stolen jewels "was fixed at several laks or millions of ticals." We never heard of laks of ticals, but a lakh of rupees represents 100,000 of that coin, or 10,000*l.* Surely, however, in an official statement of the worth of stolen goods, the proprietor, "in a story which is known to her personally to be real," would either have specified laks, or else millions, one or the other, but not both, for there is some slight difference in the respective amounts. Among the tortures employed in the Courts of Justice to extract confessions from the accused, the infliction of the bastinado is more than once referred to. "Her feet were then bastinadoed," she says in one passage, "till the soles were raw and bleeding." Bastinadoing the feet is a punishment unknown in Siam. On page 145 she alludes to a quarrel which occurred on the 10th of August, 1866, between herself and the King, and she tells us that she felt that with regard to foreigners there existed no laws and customs to restrain and limit the capricious temper and extravagant demands of His Majesty, and that she had also everything to fear "from the jealousy of certain royal courtiers and Judges." She further informed a woman, who asked her on the day she mentions to convey a letter to a prisoner in the palace, that "it was almost as much as her life was worth" to comply with her request. "It is not for my own personal safety," she grandiloquently remarks, "that I fear so much, but for my son's, whose young life depends on mine." We should think that there was little reason for Mrs. Leonowens to be afraid either on her own account or on that of her son, seeing that she was a British subject, under the protection of a Consul residing close at hand, and armed with treaty rights. In fact, the idea of any of the gentle-tempered Siamese attempting to do violence to this English lady for simply conveying a letter to a prisoner in gaol, is neither more nor less than ridiculously absurd. She says again, on page 225, that the Roman Catholic priests in Siam, adapting themselves to native usages, "never wear any covering on their heads." This is untrue. They often wear broad-brimmed European-made hats of beaver or felt.

We shall now proceed to comment upon some of the stories in detail. The first is the tragedy of Tuptim; and we are informed how this young lady and a Buddhist priest were

burnt to death, the one as a royal concubine who had been unfaithful to the King, and the other as a celibate who had broken his vows. We have no room here to reproduce the story in detail, but we ask the reader to bear in mind that the version which Mrs. Leonowens supplies is avowedly the narrative of the defendants, and that, by her own showing, Tuptim would not tell the whole truth to her judges. She was caught in the residence of a priest, and declined to say by whose assistance she had escaped thither, or how she had procured the yellow garments which had been her disguise when she fled. Mrs. Leonowens relates that she took upon herself to interfere at the trial of Tuptim, and in order to save her from torture and execution she repaired to His Majesty, to intercede on behalf of the accused. She obtained, as she says, a verbal promise that the woman's life should be spared, and then she coolly went home, without taking a single step to see that the pardon extended to the prisoner ever reached the judge's hands! She next describes how the King changed his mind after reading the evidence; how the priest and woman were exposed and tortured in front of the palace; and, finally, on the very same afternoon, publicly suffered death by fire; for such, she tells us, "is the punishment assigned by the laws of Siam to the crime of which they were accused." Now, we would again ask Mrs. Leonowens to state to us, if she can, the precise month and year in which all these thrilling incidents took place. We would ask her further, whether burning people to death is a practice ever known in Siam. Do the laws of the country really award that punishment to wantonness among the ladies of the palace, or to a priest who has broken his vows? If there be any grain of fact in the story, the explanation we venture to put forward is this. As to the priest and his paramour being exposed and publicly tortured, exposed they doubtless would have been, but not under torture. Before the final punishment of great crimes in Siam, the offenders are exhibited solemnly to the public gaze, and the nature of their offences is proclaimed. If in some rare cases they are to be afterwards put to death, beheading is the mode of execution. The *burning* is the cremation ceremony, the Siamese method of disposing of their dead. When Mrs. Leonowens asked what had become of the priest and his lover Tuptim, was she not informed "Khao pao si lèo" ("They have already been burnt")—or, as we should say, are dead and buried? Will the author permit us to inform her how, if she had possessed a little wisdom, she might really have had some chance of saving the life of Tuptim?

If we turn to page 250 of her own book, we there find it stated that one of the ladies of the palace vowed that if the author recovered from an attack of cholera, 7,000 lives should be saved; and she fulfilled this undertaking by purchasing 7,000 live fishes, and returning them again to the river. This exemplifies the Buddhist tone of thought. To save life is meritorious, to take it is a sin; and the higher in the stage of existence the creature preserved, the greater is the merit of the act. Hence there are few condemned criminals who do not find intercessors. On this principle it was that the King spared Chom Choi at the *intercession*, we do not say *interference*, of his friend, Sir Robert

Schomburgk; and had Mrs. Leonowens awaited the issue of Tuptim's trial, and then made a serious and touching appeal to the King to grant the girl's life to her intercessions, that so she might make, by her mediation, merit with the powers above, the pious old Buddhist would very probably have granted her prayer.

In the story of the Rajpoot and his daughter, a vision which was seen, or is said to have been seen, by the father in his prison cell, is elaborately described. The author is not writing a novel, and, as far as we know, she is not inspired. Who was it, then, that told her of this dream? The Rajpoot never saw his daughter in private again. He was brought next morning into court, set free, and "disappeared in the crowd;" and after wandering all day up and down in a state of frenzy, he stabbed himself in a temple on the following night.

We pass next to the story of the Princess of Chiangmai. Mrs. Leonowens tells us that she undertook to deliver a letter to the daughter of a semi-independent Northern Prince, at that time in confinement within the palace at Bangkok; that she fulfilled the request, and further conveyed an answer from the state prisoner to her brother, who was hiding in a neighbouring town, under the shelter of the governor of that place. The issue of the tale is that a slave girl belonging to the Princess, alone and unattended, contrives to scale the palace rampart and the prison walls by night; and having first provided herself with keys to unlock the cell, she passes by the guard outside in the character of a witch, then leads her mistress forth, sees her safe over both sets of walls, and finally, re-passing the guards of the prison, takes the fugitive's place in the cell, having first cut her own tongue out, to avoid being tortured into a disclosure.

Now, the first remark we should make is, that if any such princess were in custody in the palace, and her brother residing with the governor of a town hard by, they were being detained as hostages, and not at all under the circumstances which the tale describes. Had the brother wished to write to his sister, what need to employ a well-known English lady as his go-between, when a small sum given to the gaoler would have effected the object in view? Is it possible for the slave girl to have twice scaled those lofty double walls, and escaped without discovery? Where did she get keys to fit the prison-doors? How is it that she so imposed on the guard? And, lastly, is it a fact that she cut out her own tongue? That the wealthy princess may have corrupted her gaoler, and so managed to run away, is quite possible; and those semi-savages from the Laos States may also have cut out the tongue of a substituted slave, and then effected their escape to Moulemein. But, as the mutilated changeling could no longer speak, and the principals to the transaction had fled, there seems to be very little evidence to support the version supplied by the author.

The whole episode, we are told, took place subsequent to the 10th of August, 1866; and on page 166 we find that when the author had to convey the letter to the prince at Paklat, M. M——, an attaché to the French Consulate, with whom she was acquainted, was there for change of air. Now, as "most of the incidents are known to her personally to be real," we should like to ask the author whether, as a matter-of-fact, the M. M—— referred to is

not M. Marinetti, who quitted Bangkok in the year 1865? The whole story turns upon correctness of dates. The princess is described as the ill-used wife of the second king, who died in December, 1865, and she is related to have been thus imprisoned by the major king because she refused to become one of his wives. The reader, on examining the story for himself, will see that, if a single date be disproved, the whole narrative must fall to the ground.

For our part, we are surprised that the author, whose experience of Orientals has given her unmistakably some insight into their character, did not perceive all along that a joke was being played off upon her. Spies and informants watch every European in Siam, and certainly the governess attached to the palace would be subjected day and night to the most careful scrutiny. We can fancy how the drily-humorous monarch and his courtiers must have laughed at seeing this officious Englishwoman taking solemn charge of a harmless letter which had been designedly entrusted to her care: how they watched her passing busily to the head concubine's residence, who, of course, procured her access to the prisoner, and then recounted the whole interview to the concoctors of the plot. What must have been their delight when they learnt that she had embarked on a journey of nine miles to Paklat, where the pre-instructed governor, in his daily report to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, probably described the European lady, how he received her, the contents of the letter which she brought, and the conduct of the state prisoner to whom it had been addressed! We have asserted that the author has grasped unmistakably some aspects of the Oriental mind, and in corroboration of this, let us turn to page 148, where she describes a woman as "prolonging her statements" for the sole purpose of forming an idea of her success, "that she might vary her line of action according as circumstances revealed themselves." Why, then, does she fail also to perceive that all the glowing language and highly-wrought sentiment in which the heroes of her narrative describe their woes, represent not the true language and feelings of these crafty Orientals, but artfully assumed passionate energy, which those who have an object to gain from the susceptible European believe to be best adapted to serve the end in view?

The author, in the concluding portion of her work, alludes to the unhappiness and maladministration which press upon the Roman Catholic community at Tamseng. The Siamese officials are not wholly to blame for this. The priests claim jurisdiction over their own converts, and the king's writs are set at defiance. Hence these villages become Alsatian territory, to which every blackguard escapes. Rowdiness, injustice, and oppression are rife; the priests have no courts or officials to render justice and preserve order, and they will not allow the Siamese to interfere.

We find it related on page 265 that half the inmates of the prisons in Bangkok are slaves, voluntarily suffering punishment in their owners' stead. "Love, combined with despair, gives them the awful and wonderful power of utter self-sacrifice." No doubt many such slaves are to be found in gaol, but we question whether one of them is a voluntary prisoner. They are there because their masters have placed them there, perhaps as bail for

their own appearance when called up for trial, or as security for a debt they may have been condemned to pay; or, lastly, the masters themselves may have fled, and their slaves, with the rest of their chattels, have been confiscated by direction of the Court.

We need not say more of this "Romance," appropriately so called, but there is much else in it which we could without difficulty correct.

On the propriety of the writer's conduct in spending years in the service of the Siamese King, taking his pay, accepting his kindnesses, and afterwards publishing to the world the incidents which have come to her knowledge while she made her home at his court, it is not for us to pronounce. Mrs. Leonowens, as we believe, has either been crammed by gossiping inventors of marvellous tales, or has, from self-interested motives, put together a sensational work. We prefer the former alternative.

TWO AMERICAN POETS.

The Pennsylvania Pilgrim. By John Greenleaf Whittier. (Boston, U.S., Osgood & Co.; London, Tribner.)

The Marble Prophecy. By J. G. Holland. (New York, Scribner; London, Low & Co.)

It must be with no small feeling of triumph that Mr. Whittier, who nearly half a century ago sang the wrongs of the slave, now finds himself able to utter a psalm of triumph over the accomplished fact of freedom. His 'Pennsylvania Pilgrim,' which forms the chief poem of the little volume before us, is founded on the character and career of Francis Daniel pastorius, who emigrated as a young lawyer, from Germany to America, in 1683, and joined the Society of Friends in Philadelphia. The first protest against negro slavery made by any religious body was uttered by the congregation to which he belonged, that of Germantown. "Have not these negroes," it asked, "as much right to fight for their freedom, as you have to keep them slaves?" The early Quakers of America appear to have extended the same toleration to opinion as to complexion; and in many ways their mild régime contrasted remarkably with that of the Puritans, the inner light, by which alone they professed to be guided, prompting them to disregard Scriptural injunctions, which, taken literally, approve the institution of slavery and dictate the destruction of witches. The picture presented to us in this little poem is full of a tender charm. We see the pious community peacefully reproducing the old-world home in the new, surrounding themselves with the accustomed fruits and flowers, and deriving their mental and spiritual nourishment from the old accustomed sources. There is no action or progress in the poem. It is but a picture, bright with gleams of a quiet, kindly spirit, yet here and there kindling into playful sarcasm, as the bigot or the hypocrite occupies the canvas. Mr. Whittier is never more happy than when showing how the—

Ranter, pure within,
Aired his perfection in a world of sin,
and—
Turned like Lot at Sodom from his race,
Above a wrecked world with complacent face,
Riding secure upon his plank of grace;
or twits with their narrowness—

The slaves of form and rule,
Frozen in their creeds like fish in winter's pool.
—Yet, with true charity, the poet seeks a reason for the difference between the mild Friend and the stern Puritan in the conditions of the respective climates where they dwell, suggesting that perhaps it was the

caressing air, the brooding love
Of tenderer skies.
Green calm below, blue quietness above,
Still flow of water, deep repose of wood,
That, with a sense of loving fatherhood
And childlike trust in the Eternal Good,
Softened all hearts.

While, on the other hand,

Who knows what goadings in their sterner way,
O'er jagged ice, relieved by granite grey,
Blew round the men of Massachusetts bay?
What hate of heresy the east wind woke?

—He can make a picture, too, with a touch,
as when he tells how, at family prayers,

the black boy grimaces by the hearth
To solemnize his shining face of mirth;

or how

Op den Graaf
Teased the low back-log with his shodden staff,
Till the red embers broke into a laugh
And dance of flame.

Of the smaller pieces we should not be surprised to find 'Chicago,' 'The Sisters,' and 'King Volmer' become favourites. The first is a spirited ode on the burning of the city of the West, and acknowledgment of the wide sympathy evoked by that catastrophe. The last is a translation from the Danish of Christian Winter. 'The Sisters' is a spirited echo of Tennyson's "We were two sisters of one race," and Rossetti's 'Sister Helen.'

The editor of *Scribner's Magazine* is steadily building up a fame which bids fair to rival that of any of his country's poets. 'The Marble Prophecy,' with which his little volume opens, is a Protestant sermon, with the Laocöon for text. Visiting the Vatican, the poet finds himself in St. Peter's during a great ceremonial. The church is crowded with devotees:—

St. Peter's toe (the stump of it) was cold
An hour ago, but waxes warm apace
With rub of handkerchiefs, and dainty touch
Of lips and foreheads.

Smug behind their screen
Sits the Pope's choir. No woman enters there;
For woman is impure, and makes impure
By voice and presence! Mary, Mother of God!
Not thy own sex may sing thee in the courts
Of the All-Holy: only man, pure man!

The poet cannot endure it; he acknowledges—

'T is a brave pageant, but one does not like
To smutch his trowsers kneeling to a man,
Or bide the stare that follows if he fail;

and so goes out into the sunshine, where he hears now—

the far, faint voices of the choir,
As if a door in heaven were left ajar,
And cherubim were singing;

and now—

The sharp, metallic chink of grounded arms
Upon the marble.

It occurs to him to visit the galleries, and hold lonely converse with the Laocöon. It being a feast-day, there is no entrance, but the gold that has power to

Unloose a soul from purgatorial bonds,
And ope the gates of heaven,
can hardly fail to draw a bolt at the Museum; and presently he finds himself alone in presence of the dread group which impersonate

Adam and his offspring in the toils
Of those twin serpents, Sin and Suffering.

But though this was the primary significance of the marble, it has for the poet a secondary and more practical meaning. The Laocöon is a prophecy of Rome, Rome Pagan and Rome Papal, and both anti-Christian.

The primitive true age—when Jesus Christ
The crucified was only known and preached,
Struck hands with paganism and passed away.
Rome built new temples and installed new names,
Set up her graven images, and gave
To pope and priests the keeping of her gods.
Again she grasped at power no longer hers
By right of Roman prowess, and stretched out
Her hand upon the consciences of men.
The god-like liberty with which the Christ
Had made his people free she stole from them,
And bound them slaves to new observances.

In God's own place
She sat as God—supreme, infallible!
She shut the door of knowledge to mankind,
And bound the word divine. She sucked the juice
Of all properties within her realms,
Until her gaudy temples blazed with gold,
And from a thousand altars flashed the fire
Of priceless gems.

—And so, in vigorous language, he goes on to show that Rome has more than failed, inasmuch as—

Her iron hand
Shrivels the manhood it presumes to bless,
Drives to disgust or infidelity
The strong and free who dare to think and judge,
And wins a kiss from coward lips alone.

The shorter poems, which occupy the remainder of the volume, are all vigorous and tuneful, and some are especially charming. 'The Heart of the War' is singularly touching. 'Albert Dürer's Studio,' 'The old Clock of Prague,' and 'On the Righi,' are full of pleasant humour. 'Gradatius' reminds us of Longfellow in his most Psalm-like utterances, as witness this opening stanza:—

Heaven is not reached at a single bound,
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount to its summit round by round.

The moral being—

That a noble deed is a step towards God.

The delicious little poem on 'Words' is full of suggestiveness:—

The robin repeats his two musical words,
The meadow-lark whistles his one refrain;
And steadily, over and over again,
The same song swells from a hundred birds.

Bobolink, chickadee, blackbird, and jay,
Thrasher and woodpecker, cuckoo and wren,
Each sings its word, or its phrase, and then
It has nothing further to sing or say.

But to the human child the poet says, that words measure power and destiny, life and capacity, and—

Greater art thou in thy prattling moods,
Than all the singers of all the woods.

To this singer evidently only that silence is golden which has the greatest capacity of speech.

Jest and Earnest: a Collection of Essays and Reviews. By George Webbe Dasent, D.C.L. 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

Plays and Puritans; and other Historical Essays. By Charles Kingsley. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE papers in both these works date from comparatively ancient times; Mr. Kingsley's three essays being at least sixteen years old, while the earliest of Dr. Dasent's has, to vary Wordsworth's saying about Peter Bell, more than attained its majority. We cannot say that it is an unmixed advantage to let periodical papers attain so great an age before re-

printing them, if they must be reprinted. Sometimes, indeed, we are glad to recognize an old friend, and the time which has elapsed since we have seen him makes him all the more welcome. This is the case with Dr. Dasent's description of "The Greek and English Quarrel" of 1850, in the style of Herodotus, of which the present writer has a vivid recollection from having taken a humble part in the blockade of Athens. We are sorry to say that the same rule does not apply to Mr. Kingsley's three essays, which appear to us to be written in his worst manner, and are full of weak imitations of Mr. Carlyle. They will certainly not add to their author's reputation; so far as that is concerned, it might have been well if they had been left in the oblivion of back numbers. Let us say no more about them, but turn to Dr. Dasent.

Two lively sketches of foreign travel, and some papers on Norwegian history, which come naturally from the collector of those Norse Tales that are so popular with our boys, are most noticeable among the contents of these two volumes. The career of Harold Hardrada is traced from his service in the Imperial Body Guard, at Constantinople, through his rivalry with King Magnus, and his rule over Norway, to his death in the battle of Stamford Bridge. Dr. Dasent relates all the steps of this strange career with unflinching spirit, and gives us many striking scenes from the early history of Norway. Yet we think his descriptions of the Faroe Islands and of Wildbad will be most generally read and appreciated. In the first of these papers we have the most vivid accounts of the manner in which fowlers go down the cliffs in search of sea-birds and their eggs. "It is a strange feeling," says one who describes the process to Dr. Dasent; "facing you is the steep bare rock, the blue sky above you, and below you the still bluer tumbling sea; between the two you swing to and fro like a pendulum." The cragsman is fastened to a rope by bands which go down his thighs, and by shoulder-straps; his hands and feet are free, and with them he must keep himself facing the cliff, while his companions above lower him down to the ledge where the birds breed. There he unbinds himself from the rope, makes it fast, and creeps along the ledge, catching the birds in a net at the end of his pole as they fly out of their holes, killing them, and hanging them in pairs to the rope. Guillemots and puffins are taken thus, and the practised fowler will make a bag of nine hundred or a thousand in a day, though he can only take up about a hundred with him on the rope at one time. Another scene which Dr. Dasent describes with vigour is a whaling expedition on the grandest scale, two hundred whales being embayed in a firth, and being surrounded by a fleet of boats. Our readers must turn to the book itself if they wish to know how the shoal of whales is driven into the narrowest part of the firth, by shouts and showers of stones; how the harpooners, standing in bow and stern, plunge their harpoons deep into the "crisp white coats of blubber," while others, with long flinching knives, cut through the mass of blubber, and reach the whale's throat; how boat vies with boat, and parson and schoolmaster are foremost among the contending powers; and how, after the waters of the firth were first white with foam, and then red with blood, the carcasses of one

hundred and fifty whales are drawn up on the beach. The excitement of the scene seems to have blinded Dr. Dasent to the savagery of such a massacre.

As Dr. Dasent comes back from Faroe, he has an interesting story to tell us of a five miles' swim attempted by three men, only one of whom reached the goal. We are next taken to Wildbad, and dull as that place may have been to our author, he makes it agreeable enough to us. It is amusing to hear that all Germans who go there to take a course of baths are required to begin with a process of washing, a certificate that this has been effectually administered being indispensable before tickets for the course can be issued. On Englishmen, however, no such condition is imposed, and Dr. Dasent was at once admitted to all the privileges of the place. We trust the result of his baths was satisfactory, and that the leg which so long refused to sustain him, has now regained its strength. If it has not, at all events in writing these volumes he has rested on his sounder limb; we hope that he may use the same support, if he ventures again into the field of fiction.

Ecclesiastical Reform. Eight Essays by various Writers. Edited by Orby Shipley, M.A. (Longmans & Co.)

THERE can be no doubt as to which party is here enunciating its views on Ecclesiastical Reform. Several of the writers in this volume have contributed Essays to the different series of the "Church of the World," and the same editor introduces this work to the notice of the public. The complaints made with reference to the existing state of affairs in Church and State, and the suggestions for improvement, are numerous, and in most cases appear to be the result of careful study. We may take these Essays as indicating the character and extent of the reform which will satisfy the "Catholic party" in the Church of England. On many points discussed in this volume, there exists considerable diversity of opinion; but without entering upon a theological discussion, we may briefly point out to our readers the prominent topics dealt with in these Essays, referring them to the book itself for information on details.

Among the alleged grievances which are cursorily mentioned in this volume, are: The manner in which workhouses are managed and poor-law relief administered; the appropriation of the revenues of the Church and the system of patronage both public and private; the legislation which enables any one in holy orders to give up his position, being a claim on the part of the State to absolve clerics from obligations imposed upon them by the Church's rite of ordination; and on the other hand, the liability of a priest to suspension, without reference to the bishop of his diocese; the procedure of the Crown in the election of bishops, the clergy having no voice or control in the appointment of their superior officers.

Of questions considered as most important we may notice,—

(1.) The present condition of courts for the decision of ecclesiastical suits, and the power vested in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, as the ultimate appeal in questions affecting doctrine. A whole Essay is devoted

to an analysis of the methods now pursued in Ecclesiastical Courts, and proposals for improving the course of administering justice in such cases. The view upheld is that "the entire series of Ecclesiastical Courts in England is root and branch vitiated, that their decisions are null and void; that consequently no obedience whatever is due to them."

(2.) The amendment of the representative system in the Church of England. On this point there appears a unity of opinion among persons of very opposite schools of thought. We may consider them as fairly agreed in recommending, First, that Convocation should remain a clerical Synod; conceded by some as the best solution, but maintained by others as a necessity. Secondly, that some new assembly should be created, in which the laity should have an opportunity of discussing Church questions together with the clergy. The Essay on this subject advocates a reform of the existing Convocations, so that the proportion of official members to those elected by the diocesan clergy may be considerably modified.

(3.) The relations of the Church to the State in the matter of marriage and divorce. The suggestions made with reference to these points are not clear; discontent is shown, rather than reform indicated. The solution of all difficulties which arise in connexion with this subject, would be found by making the service recognized by the State a purely civil one, which would be obligatory in all cases, leaving different religious bodies free to use such ceremonies as may be enjoined by the authorities of their respective organizations.

The Essay on Creeds seems rather out of place in this collection. Perhaps as the word "reform" may frighten some into suspecting that the old order is to be overturned, this Essay is added to calm such apprehensions, by showing that these reformers are resolute in maintaining the creeds of the Church, and the Athanasian Creed in particular.

No definite opinion with regard to the Establishment is put forward. The view of the writers is, that unless the changes which they advocate are in the main conceded, disestablishment must follow. It is a fair question to ask, how many members of the Church of England would prefer the severance to such alterations as are proposed. The changes being necessary from the standpoint of the Essayists, they do not concern themselves with an answer to this inquiry.

It is worthy of note, as a sign of the times, how this question of disestablishment is mooted by all parties in their discussions as to the needs of the Church of England. Low Churchmen have their fears for the future, unless "sacerdotalism" be banished. Broad Churchmen insist that concessions must be made in accordance with the tone and spirit of modern society, if the present connexion between Church and State is to continue, and the present manifesto declares for a more decided recognition of the Church as a spiritual power, as a necessary condition of the permanence of existing relations. We shall not attempt to decide upon the relative merits of these varying counsels; but, without venturing to predict the future, one thing seems clear, that if the present Establishment is to be maintained, there must be greater unity among the members of the Church of

England as to the reforms which are necessary, and as to the means of inaugurating them.

Physics and Politics; or, Thoughts on the Application of the Principles of "Natural Selection" and "Inheritance" to Political Society. By Walter Bagehot. (International Scientific Series.) (H. S. King & Co.)

IN this interesting volume, Mr. Bagehot explains "the political prerequisites of progress, and especially of early progress," by reference to the principles of natural selection and inheritance. These principles, he argues, have as much to do with the origin of nations as with the origin of species. Hence the epigrammatic and alliterative short title of the book, which seems to us, we must confess, an unworthy concession to the prevalent notion that no branch of learning deserves to be cultivated, except only what is called physical science. Surely the reference to physics on the title-page was not necessary to bring Mr. Bagehot's subject within the scope of the "International Scientific Series," of which his work is the second instalment? However this may be, it matters little what a book is called when its contents are as interesting as those of the volume before us.

We cannot, of course, pretend to follow Mr. Bagehot's necessarily discursive argument through all its phases. We may, however, sketch its main course. Three laws, he thinks, may be laid down which have in general determined the fortunes of nations:—

"First. In every particular state of the world, those nations which are strongest tend to prevail over the others; and in certain marked peculiarities the strongest tend to be the best. Secondly. Within every particular nation the type or types of character then and there most attractive tend to prevail; and the most attractive, though with exceptions, is what we call the best character. Thirdly. Neither of these competitions is in most historic conditions intensified by extrinsic forces, but in some conditions, such as those now prevailing in the most influential part of the world, both are so intensified."

It is with the first of these laws that Mr. Bagehot is more especially concerned. Accordingly, he enumerates the different kinds of strength which may give a nation an advantage over its neighbours, and consequently secure, at any rate for a time, its survival: and first amongst the several sources of strength he ranks what he calls "the legal fibre":—

"The first thing to acquire is, if I may so express it, the *legal fibre*; a polity first—what sort of polity is immaterial; a law first—what kind of law is secondary; a person or set of persons to pay deference to—though who he is, or they are, by comparison, scarcely signifies."

Obviously a polity may be good or bad; but, as Mr. Bagehot well remarks in another place, "In early times the quantity of government is much more important than its quality. What you want is a comprehensive rule, binding men together, making them do much the same things, telling them what to expect of each other—fashioning them alike, and keeping them so."

But when nations begin to pass out of the first stage of civilization into the second, variability becomes a principal source of strength. In this age, a nation "which has just gained variability without losing legality, has a singular likelihood to be a prevalent nation."

Having demonstrated the importance of legality and variability in determining the fate of nations, our author proceeds to show, in his third and fourth chapters, how the groups which we call nations are formed, and to illustrate some of the leading characteristics of primitive and barbarous peoples. In the essay 'On the Age of Discussion,' which follows, a further question is considered: "If fixity is an invariable ingredient in early civilizations, how then did any civilization become unfixed?" Mr. Bagehot finds his answer in the fact that "the change from the age of status to that of choice was first made in states where the government was to a great and a growing extent a government by discussion, and where the subjects of that discussion were in some degree abstract, or, as we should say, matters of principle."

At certain points of the argument sketched above, Mr. Bagehot digresses to consider kindred subjects, and to suggest applications of the principles which he lays down. The reader who has accompanied us in our brief summary will have discovered for himself that these interesting researches into the history of ancient politics will serve to explain, not only the growth of primitive morality, but also the abandonment, as civilization advances, of certain institutions, *e.g.* that of slavery, which in a less advanced age have been principal sources of strength. On the first of these applications of his doctrine the author has not cared to dwell: the second is indicated, rather than set forth, under the head of "Provisional Institutions."

Mr. Bagehot's style is clear and vigorous. We refrain from giving a fuller account of these suggestive essays only because we are sure that our readers will find it worth their while to peruse the book for themselves; and we sincerely hope that the forthcoming parts of the "International Scientific Series" will be as interesting.

Myths and Myth-Makers. Old Tales and Superstitions Interpreted by Comparative Mythology. By J. Fiske, M.A., of Harvard University. (Trübner & Co.)

MR. FISKE has given us a book which is at once sensible and attractive, on a subject about which much is written that is crotchety or tedious. He has devoted himself to the study of myths without allowing them to impair his judgment on matters of fact, and he has become familiar with myth-makers without adopting their hazy views and ambiguous expressions; and so, although we may not entirely agree with him on every point, yet we can heartily recommend his unpretending but instructive volume to the large class of readers who are interested in the subjects with which he deals. It does not claim to be a work of scientific arrangement and close reasoning. Its author, indeed, speaks of it in his modest Preface as a "somewhat rambling and unsystematic series of papers"; but to the general public it will not, on that account, prove less agreeable.

Mr. Fiske disclaims any attempt "to review, otherwise than incidentally, the works of Grimm, Müller, Kuhn, Bréal, Dasent, and Tylor," nor does he claim "to have added anything of consequence, save now and then some bit of explanatory comment, to the results obtained by the labour of these scholars;"

but it has been his aim, he says, "to present these results in such a way as to awaken general interest in them." This aim he seems to us to have fully attained; and we shall be surprised if his book does not do good service in enlisting the sympathies of a large number of readers in behalf of a science which some critics find it more easy to deride than to comprehend. Mr. Fiske's volume comprises seven chapters, which seem to have been originally as many reviews of various works on Mythology and Animism. Beginning with 'The Origins of Folk-lore,' he traces home some of the most widely-spread of the pseudo-historic stories, such as those of William Tell, and of Llewellyn and Gellert, as well as a few of the Popular Tales which have caught the fancy of most nations, such as that of 'The Master Thief,' or 'The Giant who had no Heart in his Body.' His conclusions, which we are not altogether inclined to accept, are, "that the Tell myth was known, in its general features, to our Aryan ancestors before ever they left their primitive dwelling-place in Central Asia"; and that the Popular Tales

"have been handed down from parent to child for more than a hundred generations; that the primitive Aryan cottager, as he took his evening meal of *yava* and sipped his fermented mead, listened with his children to the stories of Boots and Cinderella and the Master Thief, in the days when the squat Laplander was master of Europe, and the dark-skinned Sudra was as yet unmolested in the Punjab."

This is Dr. Dasent's view, and, to a certain extent, that of a still greater authority, Prof. Max Müller. For our part, we are rather of the opinion of Prof. Benfey and his school, and are inclined to recognize in, at least, most of the longer and more dramatic of our fireside and nursery romances, mere echoes of tales told long ago by Indian story-tellers. But Mr. Fiske's creed is likely to be the more popular of the two, and he has defined and justified it in a manner which all must praise. His remarks on the vexed question of the Homeric poems can scarcely offend even those critics who are least inclined to identify Athênê and Helen with the dawn or any other atmospheric phenomenon; for he is fully conscious of a truth which has been overlooked by the more enthusiastic writers on the subject—that tales and traditions in their present forms are seldom capable of being straightway resolved into perfect nature-myths, and that in many cases they have been moulded into their present forms by composers or adapters who were perfectly innocent of mythical meaning—that, as he justly remarks,—

"The primitive meaning of a myth fades away as inevitably as the primitive meaning of a word or phrase; and the rabbins who told of a worm which shatters rocks no more thought of the writhing thunderbolts than the modern reader thinks of oyster-shells when he sees the word *ostracism*, or consciously breathes a prayer as he writes the phrase *good bye*."

The second chapter of Mr. Fiske's book is devoted to 'The Descent of Fire,' and seems to have been originally intended as a review of Prof. Kuhn's admirable essay on that subject, or of Mr. Kelly's 'Indo-European Folk-lore,' a book based upon the works of Kuhn, Grimm, and Mannhardt. The third chapter is to a great extent borrowed from Mr. Baring-Gould's writings on 'Werewolves and Swan-Maidens,' and is rather inferior to the rest of the book in

the matter of critical rejection. It is followed by a chapter on 'Light and Darkness,' which contains several interesting studies of the numerous evil spirits to which the fancy of different peoples has given rise, and especially of "the mediæval conception of the Devil." The fifth chapter, on 'The Myths of the Barbaric World,' will probably prove the most novel and amusing of all to the general reader, but it makes no pretence of offering anything that is new to students who are acquainted with Mr. Tylor's works, and with those less known, but valuable books, Brinton's 'Myths of the New World,' Callaway's 'Zulu Nursery Tales,' and Bleek's 'Hottentot Fables.'

Chapter the Sixth contains a review of Mr. Gladstone's 'Juventus Mundi.' From the greater part of the opinions pronounced in that work on subjects philological and mythological Mr. Fiske utterly dissents; but he concludes his notice with a commendation of Mr. Gladstone's "abiding taste for scholarly pursuits," and a hope, "though just now the idea savours of the ludicrous, that the day may some time arrive when our Congressmen and Secretaries of the Treasury will spend their vacations in writing books about Greek antiquities, or in illustrating the meaning of Homeric phrases." We learn from this chapter, by the way, that "Prof. Sophocles, of Harvard University, if you suddenly stop and interrogate him in the street, will tell you just how many times any given word occurs in Thucydides or in Æschylus, or in Plato, and will obligingly rehearse for you the context." In the seventh and last chapter of his book Mr. Fiske reviews Mr. Tylor's 'Primitive Culture,' which he justly styles "one of the few erudite works which are at once truly great and thoroughly entertaining," dwelling chiefly on those parts of it which deal with Animism, and constructing from them an interesting picture of "the primeval ghost-world."

Before parting with Mr. Fiske's well written little volume, we are bound to refer to one or two blemishes which appear in it. Although he "never felt so much like rebelling against the mythologic supremacy of the Sun and the Dawn as when reading Mr. Cox's volumes," yet he appears to have relied in some instances too unsuspiciously on Mr. Cox's statements. By way of retribution, he has been led into quoting as "a Middle-Age story" the Esthonian Polyphemus-tale of 'Issi teggi' ('I did it myself'). Mr. Cox, quoting from Grimm, leaves the words "selbst gethan, selbst habe" in their German form, which gives to the story the German air which alone can account for its being designated "Middle Age." No two ideas can well be more at variance than those expressed by the words Esthonian and Mediæval. More unfortunate is the praise conferred on the wrong person at p. 115:—

"In his interesting Appendix to Henderson's 'Folk-Lore of the Northern Counties of England,' Mr. Baring-Gould has made an ingenious and praiseworthy attempt to reduce the entire existing mass of household legends to about fifty story-roots; and his list, though both redundant and defective, is, nevertheless, as an empirical classification, very instructive."

Very praiseworthy, indeed, was the attempt, but it was originally made by Hahn, who has embodied its results in the forty *Märchen- und Sagformeln*, contained in the

Introduction to his 'Griechische und albanesische Märchen,' pp. 45-60. Mr. Baring-Gould has altered and somewhat expanded them, omitting at the same time their numerous parallels and references, but for all that they remain the property of Hahn, whose book was published in 1864, two years before the appearance of Mr. Henderson's. Mr. Baring-Gould must have been greatly annoyed at seeing his list printed by Mr. Henderson without any reference to the painstaking scholar (now, alas! no more) on whose "ingenious and praiseworthy attempt" it was founded.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

The Doctor's Dilemma. By Hesba Stretton. 3 vols. (H. S. King & Co.)

Squire Silchester's Whim. By Mortimer Collins. 3 vols. (Same publishers.)

The Burgomaster's Family. By Christine Müller. Translated from the Dutch, by Sir John Shaw Lefevre. (Longmans & Co.)

Conquered. By the Author of 'Known to None.' 3 vols. (Newby.)

'THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA' is the best novel of the week. In construction there is a certain imitation of the manner of Mr. Wilkie Collins, but in descriptive writing the authoress must be given a high place, and there is a good deal of life in the story. How comes it, we must ask, that it has been reviewed in America before its appearance here?

Mr. Mortimer Collins does not improve. 'Squire Silchester's Whim' is a bad novel, which the author's earlier books were not, and yet there is a strong family likeness among the whole. Mr. Collins has given us charming little poems on former occasions, but in this work everybody writes verse, and everybody writes bad verse, and some of the characters are even made to *talk* bad verse. A young lady's reflections are thus expressed:—

"If I only knew how to tell whether a man was true—how to tell whether his brilliant bravery had any kin at all with knavery—how to find his measure of mind beneath the handsome corporeal rind! I could love if only, only, only, I were sure that I should not be left all lonely by a man who deemed himself wholly free to do as he pleased and to laugh at me. I am ready to love to my uttermost breath, and to give my love to the verge of death. But he whom I love must be true, or I shall leave him alone in his filth—and die. Better any death than to bear the curse of a scoundrel husband. It were not worse to be a slave without chance of egress—a frightfully flogged and scarified negress. But I'm no negress, neither am I anxious from maidenhood to fly; and I don't see why a man should prevail because he caught a bull by the tail. He was very prompt, and did not falter; still I'm not in love with Master Walter. His question of love I think may keep—and I think—I think—I'll tumble asleep."

The fun is priggish, and we have much calling of people "Odysseus" and "Herakles," and many such phrases as "cacodorous cottages," "lymph of the lollipop," and so forth. A gentleman "kudized Louisa, who blushed when he compared her to Penthesilia": we should think she did. On the other hand, there are some sparkling passages here and there in Mr. Collins's book; for instance, these:—"The bookseller, of whom there is nothing to be said, except that he knows nothing about books." "The post-office, kept by a muddle-headed old woman, who also keeps a dame school, and who never can under-

stand how many stamps go for a shilling." "Picturesque: the most conceited epithet in our language, for it patronizes the Creator." But, on the other hand, there is no lack of gross absurdities. Some of the characters go up in a balloon in Guernsey, and come down by direction and design in a particular field in Cornwall! A young lady walks several miles in her sleep in broad daylight, and in a settled part of England, clothed in a blanket and nothing else! A leading personage in the tale carries off young ladies every week or two and locks them up in castles, or fastens them to walls. Really Mr. Mortimer Collins would seem to be making fun of his readers, and if his readers discover it, the readers of his next book will be few.

If we may judge by the respective translations of their works, "Christine Müller" (whose name, as Sir John Lefevre informs us, is really Madame van Walrée) has a far larger share of the spirit of our great English novelist than has Miss de Wille, whose novel we reviewed last week. It is with a sense of relief that we turn from the involved sentences and affected superiority to morals which are the chief characteristics of 'Johannes Olaf,' to the easy style and thoroughly healthy tone of 'The Burgomaster's Family.' It will, doubtless, be almost a new revelation to many of the English readers of the book, to find that there can be any romance in the lives of ordinary Dutch men and women; but we feel little doubt in our own mind of the correctness of the picture. The authoress evidently is a true countrywoman of Cuyyp and De Hooge; she has all the love of the former for the scenery of her native land, especially when seen under a glow of warm sunshine; and all the talent of the latter for finding beauty in the affairs of every-day life. But she has more than this; she knows also how much pathos there may be in the most every-day lives and in the workings of the most ordinary characters. The story justifies its title, and turns in effect round the history of Otto and "Emmy" Welters, who make up the family of the Burgomaster of Dilburg. Each of these is engaged early in the story, and of course neither fulfils the original engagement. But with this general resemblance ends the similarity of their stories. Otto, betrothed to his cousin, Mary van Stein, whom he loves for her true womanly qualities, is seduced from his allegiance to her by a passion for Celine Arnold, the beautiful daughter of a retired colonist, who captivates him against his better judgment, and for whose sake he accepts the freedom which Mary, clearly seeing that his heart is no longer hers, offers him. After two or three years of married life, embittered by incessant quarrels, caused by the utter incompatibility of Otto's bourgeois nature with Celine's wild caprices and violent temper, she is thrown from her horse, which, contrary to his express command, she has insisted on mounting in male attire, and dies, without time being allowed for more than forgiveness on both sides. Otto then returns, too late, to his first love, but is unable to shake her intention of entering a Protestant sisterhood, and can obtain only permission to act as her almoner in the charitable works which she wishes still to carry on in her native town. His sister's story is the counterpart to this. She, too, is betrothed, secretly, to Bruno Eversberg, son of the rich iron-founder of

Dilburg. When the crime which has laid the foundation of the elder Eversberg's fortunes (rather an old artifice, but one which we suppose must be excused as almost a necessary part of the novelist's stock-in-trade) is discovered, and he himself dies in prison from the shock of the discovery, Bruno goes to America, promising to write to Emmy at least yearly. But the postmaster of Dilburg is Emmy's step-brother, William de Graaff, who has himself made advances to her which have been rejected. Accordingly, he revenges himself by intercepting Bruno's letters. This of itself is not enough to shake her trust in her lover, whom at the worst she supposes to be dead; but one day appears a cousin of the Burgomaster's second wife, William's mother. This cousin, Siword (the original name is Sjoerd, and we do not see why Sir John Lefevre should not have boldly Englished it into Seward) Hiddema by name, brings the report that Bruno has been seen with a lady, said to be his wife, in America. This of course crushes Emmy's hopes; and when, soon after, Siword asks her to be his wife, and a mother to his little daughter, she, half in weariness, consents. As soon as the marriage is over, William completes his revenge by giving her Bruno's letters, from the last of which, scarcely a month old, she learns that the report of his marriage is false, and that he is on his return to claim her. Siword now for the first time learns the history of her former betrothal, and himself brings Bruno to her, as they all understand, to take his last farewell. Then he himself leaves her for a time, so that she learns to feel the need of his love, which is that of an honourable man; and we leave her at last content to accept a happiness, different, indeed, from that for which she had once hoped, but still sufficient for her life. Such is the story, simple enough, and like many others which we have heard; but told with that skill and delicacy which will always make the oldest story interesting. The translation, as far as we can judge from itself, appears to be well done: the English is natural, which shows that the translator has a thorough command of both languages. We hope that this, "Christine Müller's" first novel, will not be her last, and that when she writes another, Sir John Lefevre will render it for the benefit of English readers, who we fear know less than they should of the language which is almost the nearest akin to their own of all spoken tongues.

We repeat, that 'The Doctor's Dilemma' is the best English novel of the week, for of 'Conquered' we can only say that it is sensational in story and dull in style.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

A REPRINT of the 'Memoirs of the Duke and Duchess of Newcastle' has been speedily followed by a selection, of which Mr. Jenkins is editor, from their writings, under the title of *The Cavalier and his Lady* (Macmillan & Co.). Lamb's assertion, that it was "hopeless" to expect to see works of this kind reprinted, is thus falsified, and a portion, at least, of the poems and essays of her whom he styled "that princely woman, the thrice noble Margaret Newcastle," is rendered generally accessible. The manner in which the work of editing and selecting has been discharged is, in the main, satisfactory; and the volume, with its two dainty portraits, is a desirable possession. Unluckily, perhaps, the aroma of old writers is so delicate, it scarcely sur-

vives the process of bottling. Lovers of old literature will never be content with a selection from the works of the Duchess of Newcastle, but will wish, like Lamb, to peruse her deliciously naïve confessions in the original folios. These, however, have now attained a high price, and few book lovers can have the pleasure of turning over their pages. Mr. Jenkins's volume is welcome accordingly. In speaking of the poems of the Duchess, which constitute the most agreeable portion of the collection, the editor is betrayed into exaggeration. Of the dialogue between Mirth and Melancholy he writes:—"It is not much to say that it rivals in their particular line 'L'Allegro' and 'Il Penseroso.'" This is, at least, a good deal to say. Some of the fancies he holds up to admiration are ingenious in their kind, especially the line which commands his especial approval,—

I knelt upon a thought, like one that prayed.

An unbridled fancy rather than imagination is the strong point of the Duchess, and, for one instance of a poetical expression or illustration, one may find a score of instances of whimsicalities. A single example will suffice. Depicting "A Woman dressed by Age," she gives a series of descriptions, almost worthy, in their quaintness and drollery, of Fuller, and tells how

Her stockings cramp had knit: red worsted gout
And pain as garters tied her legs about.

The combination in the last line of homely truth of description and grotesque power is quite inimitable. In the fairy pieces, which bear a strong resemblance to those of Sir John Mennis, she is at her best. Her allegories and essays are charming and playful; and in her letters and reflections she shows a vein of humour which seldom intrudes into her comedies. An extract from 'Nature's Pictures, drawn by Fancie's Pencil,' entitled 'A Quaint Fancy,' is an absolutely divine piece of love's idolatry. 'The Marriage of Life and Death' is as startlingly direct and earnest in its extravagance as a dream of Blake; and the description of a Puritan Dame is worthy of Ben Jonson. Through all her ladyship's extravagance runs a vein of practical common sense, supplied, perhaps, by the experience which, even in her girlhood, the troubled times had thrust upon her. Sometimes it fringes what, in Puritan days, might be considered irreverence, as when she says, "To help a friend in distress is better and more acceptable than to pray for a friend in distress; to relieve a beggar in distress is better than to pray for him; to attend the sick is better than to pray for the sick." The poems of the Duke occupy but a small portion of the volume. They are less original than those of the Duchess, but are not void of humour. The sole fault to be found with the edition, taking it for what it is, a volume of extracts, is the frequency of changes, metrical and other, on which the editor has ventured. Mr. Jenkins should remember that changes which add to the music of the compositions detract from their individuality. We do not want any one to doctor our old wine, however cunning he may be in the use of cordials.

MR. MULHALL'S volume, *Rio Grande do Sul, and its German Colonies* (Longmans & Co.), will prove useful to intending emigrants. It can hardly prove interesting as a record of travel.

We have before us a well-written book, *Nouvelles Études sur le Brésil*, by M. Charles Pradey, published by M. Thorin, of Paris. M. Pradey is a Swiss gentleman living in Brazil. His attack on Brazilian slavery is strong, but deserved, and he pays his tribute of respect to the steps taken by England for its repression.

MR. THOMAS HUGHES'S *Memoir of a Brother* (Macmillan & Co.) is well written, and more interesting than books of the kind usually are; but it hardly calls for special remark. The chapter describing Mr. G. Hughes's 'Oxford Life' may, however, be mentioned as particularly good.

Ready, O Ready! by the Captain of the Cumberland, published by Messrs. Low & Co., is an odd mixture of piety and yarns. The author will hardly carry the public with him in denouncing Mr. Dickens's readings for immorality!

A TERRIBLY dull book is *La Science de la Paix*, by the late M. Louis Bara, published by M. Muquardt, of Brussels, and M. Sandoz, of Paris, and edited by M. Charles Potvin. The most noteworthy feature of the work is that it rather opposes than favours, disarmament.

Two useful annual works, of very different kinds, are before us on our table. The one, *The Statesman's Year-Book*, compiled by Mr. F. Martin, and published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., the other, *Burke's Peerage*, published by Mr. Harrison, of Pall Mall. Both have always been excellent, and 'The Statesman's Year-Book' improves year by year. Perhaps Mr. Martin will remodel the education statistics, and also give us the proportion of parties in the English, Spanish, Italian, French, and German Parliaments. Our only regret in connexion with this year's edition is, that the information which might have been collected upon local government in foreign countries with a view to future legislation here does not appear. But all this is hyper-criticism, and the book is really almost as good as it can be. Sir Bernard Burke's thirty-fifth edition of his *Peerage* is as good as the other thirty-four.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the last two volumes of Messrs. Strahan's handsome "Library Edition" of Mr. Tennyson's poems. They contain his Arthurian Idylls complete, and we observe several additions and alterations, besides the epilogue addressed to the Queen. Messrs. Smith & Elder have wisely reprinted along with 'The Professor' the poems by Ellis, Currier, and Acton Bell,—copies of them were getting scarce,—and also their father's poems.

We have on our table *A Sail to Smyrna*, by Mrs. Baillie (Longmans),—*A Synopsis of "Our Favourite Old Sayings," in English and Latin*, by Cantab (Partridge),—*The Book of Good Devices*, edited by G. Golding (Cassell),—*Ebrietas Encomium; or, the Praise of Drunkenness*, by Boniface Oinophilus (Pitman),—*Recipes for Cooking Australian Meat*, by a Cook (Chapman & Hall),—*Mackay's Australian Almanac for 1873* (Melbourne, Mackay),—*Muhammadanism, its Present Condition and Influence in India*, by H. C. Bowen, B.A. (Macmillan),—*Homely Pearls at Random Strung*, by T. Watson (Edinburgh, Menzies),—*Grace Tolmar*, by J. Dangerfield (Smith & Elder),—*Tama and Zulu, and other Poems*, by A. Pebble (Town and Country Publishing Company),—*Church Lessons for Young Churchmen*, by the Rev. J. H. Titecomb, M.A. (Church of England Sunday School Institute),—*Tales on the Parables*, by I. Craig-Knox, 5 vols. (Cassell),—*Gitenel Canaves*, by A. Bertolotti (Ivrea, Curbis),—and *Shakespeare's Southampton-Sonette*, translated into German by F. Krauss (Williams & Norgate). Among New Editions we have *Three Lectures on Education*, by A. Oppler (Longmans),—and *The Fool of Quality*, by H. Brooke (Macmillan). Also the following Pamphlets: *Everybody's Question; or, a few Words on Banking and Currency*, by G. H. Chambers (Wilson),—*Observations on the Shape of the Chest in Cases of Hypertrophy of the Heart*, by N. Moore (Bradbury & Agnew),—*On the Theory and Practice of Education*, by J. Ogle, B.A. (Nutt),—*Tabular Chronology*, by M. Thomson (Plymouth, Doidge),—*The "Old Catholics" at Cologne*, by Herr Fröhlich (Burns & Oates),—*Tennyson*, by W. Irving (Simpkin),—*A Visit to Louise Lateau*, by the Rev. G. Molloy, D.D. (Burns & Oates),—*Tabular System of Teaching the Scriptures*, by M. Thomson (Plymouth, Doidge),—*Songs of Salvation*, by D. Greenwell (Strahan),—*A Pastoral for the Year 1873*, by the Rev. T. Scott, A.M. (Dublin, Bethel),—*Die Griechischen Philosophen in der Arabischen Uebersetzung*, by A. Müller (Williams & Norgate),—and *Anselm der Peripatetiker*, edited by E. Dümmler (Williams & Norgate).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Arnold's (M.) *Literature and Dogma*, cr. 8vo. 9/6.
Bowman's (H.) *Studies in the Psalms*, new edit. 12mo. 2/6.
Byng's (F. E. C.) *Seasons of the Year, &c.*, Four Sermons, 1/6.
Churton's (Rev. W. R.) *Defence of the English Ordinal*, 8vo. 3/6.
Expository and Practical Commentary on the Books of Scripture, ed. by late Rev. Dr. C. G. Barth, new ed. 12/6.

Guide to Heaven, compiled by a Priest, edited by the Rev. T. T. Carter, 18mo. 1/6 swd.
 Hare's (A. W.) Sermons, 5th edit. 2 vols. 12mo. 10/6 cl.
 Hunt's (Rev. J.) Contemporary Essays in Theology, 16/ cl.
 Hutchinson's (J. P.) The Glory Land, fcap. 2/ cl.
 Law's (Rev. H.) Christian Cordials, 18mo. 1/ cl. limp.
 Liddon's (H. P.) Sermons Preached before the University of Oxford, 5th edit. cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
 Long's (Lady C.) Heavenly Thoughts for Morning and Evening Hours, new edit. 2 vols. 18mo. 2/6 each.
 Oxenden's (Right Rev. A.) Thoughts for Lent, 12mo. 2/ cl.
 Rivie's (A.) The Song of Songs, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. swd.
 Whitfield's (Rev. F.) Shadows of the Great Sacrifice, 1/ cl. lp.
 Winchester Diocesan Calendar, 1873, cr. 8vo. 1/ swd.
 Winslow's (Rev. F. E.) Power of the Cross, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Xavier's (St. F.) Life and Letters, Vol. 2, by H. J. Coleridge, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.

Law.

Amor's (R.) An English Code, 8vo. 12/ cl.
 Bank Charter Act (The) and the Rate of Interest, 2nd ed. 1/6
 Browne's (G.) Treatise on Principles and Practice of the Court of Probate, 8vo. 21/ cl.

Music.

Boosey's Royal Edition of the Songs of Scotland, edited by C. Brown and J. Pitman, royal 8vo. 2/6 swd.

Poetry.

Ancient (An) City, and other Poems, by a Native of Surrey, 6/

History.

Catechism of Roman History, edited by E. M. Sewall, 1/6 cl.
 Gleig's (Rev. G. R.) History of Reign of George III., 2/6 cl.
 Priault's (O. de B.) Indian Travels of Apollonius of Tyana, 7/6
 Rawlinson's (G.) Sixth Oriental Monarchy, 8vo. 16/ cl.
 Smith's (W.) Primary History of Britain, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

Geography.

Appleton's (L.) Reminiscences of a Visit to the Battle-Fields of Sedan, 12mo. 1/ swd.
 Mulhall's Rio Grande do Sul and its German Colonies, 6/ cl.
 Nordhoff's (C.) California, for Health, Pleasure, &c., 12/6 cl.
 Trollope's (A.) Australia and New Zealand, 2 vols. 8vo. 36/ cl.

Philology.

Abbott's (Rev. A.) Latin Prose through English Idiom, 2/6 cl.
 Aristophanes, The Peace of, ed. by W. C. Green, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Boe and Sandar's Claus-Book of Comparative Idioms, English and French, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.
 Caesar's Gallic War, Book 5, ed. by J. T. White, 18mo. 1/ cl.
 Iophon, an Introduction to Art of Writing Greek Iambic or Verses, by the Writer of 'Noces', 12mo. 1/6 swd.
 Juvenal's Satires, with Notes and Introduction, by G. A. Simcox, 2nd edit. 12mo. 5/ cl.
 Madvig's (Dr. J. N.) Greek Syntax, 2nd edit. cr. 8vo. 8/6 cl.
 Meadows's Italian and English Dictionary, new edit. 18mo. 5/

Science.

Adams's (R.) Treatise on Rheumatic Gout, 2nd edit. 8vo. 21/ cl.
 Chapman's (J.) Neuralgia, &c. 8vo. 14/ cl.
 Dalton's (Rev. T.) Arithmetical Examples, new edit., with Appendix, 18mo. 2/6 cl.
 Drayson (Lieut.-Col.) On the Cause, &c., of the last Glacial Epoch of Geology, 8vo. 10/ cl.
 Everest's (H.) History and Practice of Navigation, fcap. 1/ cl.
 Miller's (R. K.) Romance of Astronomy, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Ringer (S.) On the Temperature of the Body in Phthisis, 2nd edit. 8vo. 2/6 cl. limp.
 Steam and the Steam-Engine, fcap. 1/ cl.
 Thomson's (C. W.) Depths of the Sea, 8vo. 31/6 cl.
 Valentin's (W. G.) Course of Qualitative Chemical Analysis, 7/6

General Literature.

Black's (R.) Lady Caroline, cr. 8vo. 7/ cl.
 Bradon's (Miss) Milly Darrell, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
 Chapman's (Capt. C.) All About Ships, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
 Chapman's (Capt. C.) Dictionary of Modern Sea Terms, 8vo. 1/6
 Dawbarn's (W.) Essays, Tales, &c., 2nd edit. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Dod's Parliamentary Companion, 1873, 18mo. 4/6 cl. swd.
 Erkmann-Chatrin's Friend Fritz, fc. 1/ swd.
 Hare's (T.) Election of Representatives, 4th edit. cr. 8vo. 7/ cl.
 Illustrated London News, Vol. 61, folio, 20/ cl.
 Jones's (T. R.) Balance Time Interest Tables, 4to. 7/6 cl.
 Kingsley's (Rev. C.) Selections from some of the Writings of, 6/ Letter to Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, by a Nonconformist, 1/ London Journal, Vol. 56, 4to. 4/6 cl.
 Macquoid's (K. S.) Patty, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
 Oxford University Calendar, 1873, fcap. 4/6 cl.
 Paul's (W.) Rose Garden, 3rd edit. royal 8vo. 7/6 cl.
 Porter's (R.) The Winter Fire, fc. 1/ swd.
 Ready, O Ready! or, These Forty Years, by Captain of the Cumberland, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
 Rickett's (M. H.) Saved by His Life, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
 Some Talk about Animals and their Masters, by the Author of 'Friends in Council', post 8vo. 7/6 cl.
 Young's (G.) Ten Years, a Novel, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.

NOTES FROM NAPLES.

Naples, Feb. 6, 1873.

Two works of great though different interest have just appeared. One is the 'Report of the Neapolitan Archives,' by Francesco Trinchera, Director of the Archives in the Neapolitan Provinces; the other is 'The Political Memoirs of Liborio Romano,' published by his brother, Giuseppe Romano, with notes and documents. At the critical moment when the Bourbons were driven from Naples, Liborio Romano accepted power from Garibaldi, and later the office of Councillor of Lieutenantcy. For a short time he held almost supreme control over the destinies of the old kingdom of the Two Sicilies. Errors of judgment he may have committed, but he never sacrificed his principles to his interest; and his firm attachment to constitutional liberty, and his utter abnegation of self, demand the highest respect and honour to his memory. This humble tribute

is offered to him by one who was with him daily in that stormy period. The 'Memorie Politiche' will be read with great interest by those who desire to make themselves acquainted with the history of the dawn of liberty in these provinces. "It is a work," says an Italian critic, "which throws much light on the gravest incidents of the most stormy period of our resurrection, and shows how the very errors of the minister arose from the best intentions of the citizen." The 'Memorie,' &c., are preceded by an Introduction, written by the ex-Deputy Giuseppe Romano, who gives a valuable picture of the policy of the Bourbons from 1789 to 1860. The author says he is anxious that each one should have his due, and he does not spare the new Government. "It never ceased to embitter the life of his brother till the last moment of his existence." It is a brother, we must remember, who thus writes.

Another Report must be noticed, and it is of the Library of the University of Naples, from the pen of the Director, Cav. Giulio Minervini. It gives a history of the Library from its formation to the present time. In 1860, we are told, it contained 35,000 volumes, but owing to additions from the libraries of suppressed convents, and the purchase of new works, it now can boast of four times that number. "The Library of the University of Naples," says the author, "is the most frequented in Italy. It often happens that from 1,000 to 1,500 volumes are called for in one day; and, on an average, it may be calculated that the number of readers in a year amounts to 80,000 or 90,000, whilst the works consulted are from 150,000 to 200,000. As to the character of the books, they are classed under sacred, natural, mathematical, and medical science; jurisprudence, history, philosophy, and the social sciences; geography and travels; the fine arts; literature and philology; romances and novels; ephemeral works, by which are intended scientific and literary journals. In somewhat a smaller proportion are works on economy, statistics, administration, and polygraphy, whilst public instruction has its place allowed." The University Library alone, therefore, diffuses a vast amount of information amongst the rising generation in Southern Italy; and there are other libraries thrown open to the public with equal liberality.

H. W.

THE PERIODS OF ENGLISH AS A LANGUAGE.

In Dr. Morris's 'Outlines of English Accidence' we have the following scheme for the division of English into five, or rather six periods:—

1. English of the First Period, A.D. 450 to 1100.
2. Of the Second Period, A.D. 1100 to about 1250.
3. Of the Third Period, A.D. 1250 to about 1350.
4. Of the Fourth Period, A.D. 1350 to 1460.
5. Of the Fifth Period; subdivision 1; A.D. 1460 to 1620.
6. Of the Fifth Period; subdivision 2; A.D. 1520 to 1873.

These divisions are, of course, arbitrary, there being no exact break in the language anywhere. But they are convenient. One very great drawback is that, with the exception of the first period (generally known as Anglo-Saxon or A.S.), they have no names. Dr. Morris changes the name of the First Period to that of *Old English* (O.E.), as expressing the real nature of it more clearly; but, this once done, throughout the rest of the book the term O.E. is used very vaguely, though an asterisk is sometimes put against such O.E. forms as are clearly *not* of the first period. A better plan is to carry out the change of nomenclature thoroughly; if we use O.E. to denote the language before A.D. 1100, rather than that of Chaucer's time, we must of course proceed to use M.E., i.e. Middle-English, for the language of Chaucer's time, rather than that of the Tudor period.

Nomenclature is of little use if it cannot be applied readily and with sufficient sharpness of definition; and dates are of most use when we have something definite to refer them to. For this reason I find, in practice, that it is far simpler to be guided to some extent by the king's reigns, which can easily be done by cutting the reign of

Henry the Third in half. The middle year of his reign is 1244, which is sufficiently near to 1250. This is my scheme, which is simple in theory and easy in practice:—

1. Old English; from the earliest times to the accession of Henry I. Abbreviation, O. E. Example: O.E. *garstapan*, grasshoppers; St. Mark i. 6.

2. Late Old English; from the accession of Henry I. to the middle of Henry III.'s reign. Abbreviation, O.E.; with the addition of an asterisk, as used by Dr. Morris. Example: late O.E., or O.E. *garstapen**, grasshoppers.

3. Early Middle English; from the middle of Henry III.'s reign to the accession of Edward III., A.D. 1327. This only differs from A.D. 1350 by a few years, and makes little practical difference. Abbreviation, E.M.E. or E.E.; though I think the former much the best. Example: E.M.E. (or E.E.). *Engleleolande*, England; Proclamation of Henry III. A.D. 1258.

4. Middle-English; from the accession of Edward III. to the death of the last Plantagenet, A.D. 1484. It makes little difference what name is given to the literature of the time of the White Rose. Example: M.E. *Engleland*; Chaucer, prol. 16.

5. Tudor-English, from the accession of Henry VII. to the death of Elizabeth. This may often be called English simply. Abbreviation, T.E. or E., according to the degree of accuracy required. Example: T.E. (or E.) *Englandes*, England's; Lord Berners.

6. Modern English, or English. Abbreviation, E. Example: E. *England*.

It will at once be obvious, that the three great divisions into Old English, Middle English, and Modern English, will commonly serve all purposes, and that the only ideas we really require whereby to regulate our chronology are to date from the accession of Edward III. for Middle English, from that of Henry VII. for Modern English, and to cut the reign of Henry III. in half, by way of distinguishing the latest Old English from the earliest Middle-English. Some such scheme as this will have to come into general use ere long.

To guard against error, it must be observed that these periods in the formation of the language are quite distinct from the periods in the literature. See Morley's 'English Writers,' vol. i. p. 4.

WALTER W. SKEAT.

'THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS.'

Will your reviewer of Jan. 25 kindly speak of a single difficulty which I have passed over in my 'Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews'?

W. A. O'CONNOR.

. A few examples will show this commentator his unconsciousness of the defects in his book.

1. In Hebrews ix. 4, the doubtfulness of the meaning attaching to the noun *θυμιατήριον* is unnoticed. That many take it to denote *altar of incense*, not *censer*, should be mentioned, especially as the latter appears to be the true sense, being advocated by good critics, like Bleek and De Wette. A difficulty, indeed, arises from this interpretation; but one as great inheres in the other, viz., *censer*; since the words of the epistle plainly imply that the *θυμιατήριον* was kept in the holy of holies, not carried into it on a particular day.

2. In i. 7, no notice is taken of the fact that the Hebrew words quoted have a different meaning from the one given by the Greek writer, viz.—

Who maketh the winds his messengers,
 And the flaming fire his minister.

This will be a difficulty to many as well as to Mr. O'Connor, unless he thinks that the New Testament writers might freely assign a meaning to the Hebrew which it will not bear.

3. The difficulty in quoting Psalm cii. 26-28 (Hebrews i. 10-12), and referring it to Christ, which is against the original, has been evidently unfelt by the commentator, although Tholuck is perplexed about it, and cannot make it square with his opinions as to the general principle of citation followed by the New Testament writers.

If Mr. O'Connor imagines that his assertion, "The Jews were familiar with the thought that the Messiah was the architect of the heaven and the earth," relieves the matter, he is mistaken; as any Jew will tell him that the statement is incorrect.

Literary Gossip.

WE understand that Sir John Sinclair, M.P., is preparing for the press a book on the late Franco German War. It is to be published simultaneously in English, French, and German.

It is said that Mr. F. H. Hill is the author of the sketches of leading statesmen which have lately appeared in the *Daily News*, and Mr. Napier Broom of the articles on 'Spiritualism' in the *Times*.

WE have before us a few rather interesting letters of Lord Lytton's. We may this week refer to some written at the time when his first play, 'The Duchess de La Valliere,' was brought out. When that drama was produced, we gave a short notice of the performance (*Athen.* No. 480), and announced that we should on another occasion review the work as a dramatic poem. This led Lord Lytton to address to us two or three letters, in which the following passages occur:—

"You speak of the play as an *acting* play,—I speak only of it as an *acted* play. Had I actors who could embody my conceptions with proper *finesse* and delicacy, who could preserve the ideal of the written parts, I would not have altered a word for the stage. I do not abate an iota of my own judgment that with a proper Lauzun, La Valliere, and Montespan, the play would on the stage secure the moral effects designed for it in the writing. The acting burlesques it in some instances, and (if I may coin the epithet) *coarsens* it in others, but this does not tell against it as a play that *might* be acted, but as a play in which the parts were not written for the actors."

—In a second, he remarks:—

"I do not think he expressed the opinion of the public, but he expressed one very general in the press. I believe I have the public with me—the press I never had."

—In a third, he says:—

"I venture to proffer this request as a comment on your notice of the acting of 'La Valliere,' viz., that you will not judge the author by the actors, and, above all, that you will not consider immoral that which was intended as a satire on immorality, but which either the coarseness of representation, or the inability of an audience to transplant themselves to another time and country, or want of skill in myself, rendered hostile to my own design. Perhaps, also, you will have the kindness to remember, that no sooner did I find my own intended effects misconstrued, than I directed every part so misconstrued to be omitted. I trust you will excuse the liberty I take, which I should not dream of doing, if the review I allude to had confined itself to my want of talents, and not (pardon me for saying as I think, judging *merely* from the stage-effect of the first night) mistaken what I trust a perusal would allow to be the moral of the play."

—We need hardly add that Lord Lytton proved mistaken in supposing he had the public with him. The original cast was as follows:—Louis the Fourteenth, Mr. Vandenhoff; Bragelone, Mr. Macready; Lauzun, Mr. Farren; Marquis de Montespan, Mr. Webster; La Valliere, Miss Faucit.

LORD LYTTON was fond of publishing works anonymously; but he usually avowed the authorship after a short time. It is said that the reason he so strictly concealed the fact that he wrote 'The Coming Race' is, that it

contains a profession of his faith, a profession he always shrank from making openly. His ideal race believe, it may be recollected, in a Supreme Being, The All-Good, but hold no other dogmas, and use no religious rites.

THE author of the 'Pilgrims and the Shrine,' 'Higher Law,' &c., has a new work in the press. It purports to be an historical romance of the Future, no Utopia, but a representation of society, with the present problems worked out to what the author deems their proper or probable issue.

BARON JAMES DE ROTHSCHILD, of Paris, and M. Picot, the French Consul at Temesvar, are at present in London, engaged in examining the volumes of early French poetry contained in the Library of the British Museum. It is the intention of Baron Rothschild and his coadjutor to publish a bibliography of French poetry from the invention of printing to the middle of the sixteenth century, or a little later—say, the death of Henry the Second, in 1559. They desire to make this work, upon which they have been engaged for some years, as complete as possible, and will be glad of any practical suggestions that may conduce to such a result.

MR. GAIRDNER, of the Public Record Office, has been authorized to edit for the Camden Society a Chronicle written by Gregory Skinner, who was mayor of London in the year 1452. This work, which appears to have escaped the notice of John Stow and of all subsequent inquirers, contains much new and interesting information concerning the reigns of Henry the Sixth and Edward the Fourth. Although in form a city chronicle like that of Fabyan, it gives an entirely independent narrative of the events of the period, and conveys, in many cases, a much more vivid impression of what took place than anything yet published. New light is cast on the rebellion of Jack Cade, and novel and highly characteristic anecdotes of Margaret of Anjou and King Edward the Fourth are among the points of interest.

WE believe that 'Rambles,' by Patricius Walker, which we reviewed last week, is the work of Mr. W. Allingham.

AMONG the books of the coming season are, a collection of miscellaneous poems, by the author of 'Heliond'; or, *Adventures in the Sun*, 'The Romance of a Garret,' &c.; 'Through Spain, by Rail, in 1872,' by Mr. Alfred Elwes, to be published by Mr. Effingham Wilson; and an English edition of 'The Dietetics of the Soul; or, True Mental Discipline,' from the German of Dr. Feuchtersleben, edited by Col. H. A. Ouvry, C.B. It is to be published by Messrs. Kerby & Endean. Mr. Edward Walford, the author of 'County Families,' is writing a series of anecdotal and antiquarian papers, entitled 'Tales of our Great Families.'

WE saw the other day, at a London bookseller's, a remarkable, although imperfect, copy of the last production of Caxton's press, 'The Golden Legend,' 1493, folio, with many curious woodcuts, and all the leaves numbered throughout. Only one perfect copy of this book is known. This one wanted sixteen leaves, which have been supplied in fac simile by Harris.

THE lectures to ladies at Brighton are a decided success. Prof. Seeley has a class of over three hundred for his History course on the Reign of George the Third.

THE new Professor of Education at the College of Preceptors, Prof. Payne, has no less than sixty pupils for his opening course.

THE contributions to the Strasbourg Municipal Library number twenty-five thousand volumes; and a large collection made in Paris for the library has not yet been sent. It is to be forwarded soon under French charge.

It is said that the writer of the article on 'The Works of Thackeray,' in the current number of the *Edinburgh Review*, is Mr. George Smith, author of 'Alden of Aldenholme,' &c.

THE Guildhall Library and Museum are to be opened to the public next month. Besides the hall for the members of the corporation and ticket readers, the spacious room on the south side of the building, for the use of all comers as a free library, is furnished with large tables and comfortable seats, which will afford accommodation to a good number of occasional readers.

WE regret to hear of the death of Mr. J. S. Le Fanu, the well known novelist, which occurred last week. Mr. Le Fanu, who was nearly sixty years of age, was the author of a large number of novels. He also wrote verse, and his well known ballad 'Shamus O'Brien,' has often been attributed to Lover. 'Willing to Die,' Mr. Fann's last novel, is at present in course of publication in *All the Year Round*.

A SPLENDID MS. of the fifteenth century, on vellum, the "Premier Volume du Miroir Historial de Vincent de Beauvais, translate de Latin en Francois, par Frere Jehan de Vignay," is to be sold to-day (Saturday) by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge. It is adorned, besides numerous capitals, illuminated in gold and colours, with 133 miniatures, chiefly executed in *grisaille*, heightened with gold and silver. It was written for the Constable de Launoy, whose arms are introduced in several of the borders.

THE death of a distinguished Orientalist, M. Eusèbe de Salles, formerly Professor of Arabic at Marseilles, is announced from Montpellier. 'Ali le Renard; ou, la Conquête d'Alger,' was the first novel published by M. de Salles, then Oriental interpreter to the African expedition. His most important work is 'Les Pérégrinations Orientales.' While still living, he presented the whole of his valuable library to the city of Montpellier. His wife, Madame Eusèbe de Salles, an Englishwoman, did the same with her library of English books, including most of the masterpieces of English literature from Shakspeare to our time.

THE French publishers are exulting in the choice made of their illustrious *confrère*, M. Ambroise Firmin Didot, to fill a chair in the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres. Both as printer and publisher M. Didot is a worthy successor of the Estiennes of former days. He is an excellent Greek scholar, and, besides taking an active part in editing the 'Thesaurus Linguae Graecae,' for which he wrote the Prolegomena, is author of the following works: 'Notes d'un Voyage dans le Levant,' 'Traduction de Thucydide,' 'Essai sur la Typographie,' 'Essai Typographique et Bibliographique sur l'Histoire de la Gravure sur Bois,' &c. In 1861 M. Didot purchased the celebrated Missal of Jacques des Ursins, which he generously presented to the city of Paris.

THE Frenchman who styles himself Duke of Roussillon, and who, under that name

published. 'Biographies Carlovingiennes et Mérovingiennes,' is again in trouble. Two or three years ago, as our readers may remember, his name was removed from the list of the Junior Athenæum Club, on the ground that he is not a duke; and now the Council of the Royal Botanical Society, of which he is a Foreign Correspondent, are investigating his claims to the title.

M. MOULINÉ has produced a new French translation of Mr. Charles Darwin's 'Origin of Species.'

THE valuable chronicle of Gregory Bar-Hebræus, which fills an important gap in the ecclesiastical history of the Christian churches in Asia, has at length been translated from the MS. in the British Museum, and published at Louvain by MM. A. J. B. Abbeloos and Th. G. Lamy. The work of Bar-Hebræus was well known to scholars in Asia, especially to the learned Maronite, J. S. Assemani, who largely borrowed from it without quoting the source of his information; but it was almost a dead-letter to European writers of ecclesiastical history. Thanks to the Belgian editors, the chronicle of Bar-Hebræus is now accessible to all Western scholars who feel interested in the early struggles of the Asiatic Churches.

THE clever bibliographer, M. Gustave Brunet, who is by no means to be confounded with his namesake, the author of the 'Manuel du Libraire,' has just edited 'Les Livres à Clefs,' which forms the complement of the Posthumous Works of J. M. Quérard. Everybody in Paris knew well that inquisitive literary detective, who, having fairly caught his man by the button-hole, would never let him escape before having screwed out of him all he possibly knew, conjectured, or suspected about his literary friends. 'Les Livres à Clefs' is no doubt a valuable addition to the 'Supercherries Littéraires.'

THE American papers notice the death, at Stuttgart, of Mrs. Seemüller, better known as Miss Annie Crane, of Baltimore, whose works, 'Emily Chester,' 'Opportunity,' &c., have excited attention in the United States and in Germany, where translations of them appeared. 'Emily Chester' was republished in this country by Messrs. Routledge.

C. G. R. writes:—"In the original prospectus of the 'Cambridge Shakespeare,' a promise was made that a Glossary should form one of the volumes. I (with many others) regret this promise has never as yet been fulfilled, as the editors of the 'Cambridge Shakespeare' were sure to do their work skilfully, and in such a way as to leave nothing to be desired. If we could feel assured that the work would be forthcoming at some early period, and not be altogether laid on one side, the delay might be advantageous, as enabling the editors to avail themselves of the results of the latest philological inquiries."

THE death of Francesco Dall' Ongaro, the well known Venetian poet and author, is announced from Naples, where he died on the 10th of January, at the age of sixty-five. His chief works are the charming 'Stornelli,' by which he is best known; the 'Ballate'; and, amongst other writings, 'Il Fornaretto,' a drama written in 1838 for Gustavo Modena; comedies in the Greek style, 'Fasma' and 'Il Tesoro'; and many dramas. His last published

writing was a critical study on the 'Indian Theatre,' in the January number of the *Rivista Europea* of this year.

THE novel, 'Was die Schwalbe Sang,' by Friedrich Spielhagen, has been published in a collected form.

SCIENCE

The Animal Creation. By T. R. Jones, F.R.S. (Warne & Co.)

The Natural History of Birds. By T. R. Jones, F.R.S. (Same publishers.)

WE fear that Mr. Jones, instead of writing these books himself, must have given the former, at least, into the hands of some one far less informed than himself, as many of the flagrant errors to be found in it would be corrected by a perusal of his own publications. In two short paragraphs, for instance, on the osteology of birds, there are at least half-a-dozen absolute misstatements, including the surprising announcements that they may have five toes, have no fibula, and have all the dorsal vertebrae ankylosed. A very inaccurate drawing is also introduced to illustrate how, by means of the muscle which in some cases sends its tendon across the knee, a bird is enabled to sleep on one leg without falling, an explanation which, though sanctioned by high authorities, is anything but desirable to perpetuate. Similar faults pervade the whole work, though it contains several woodcuts, which in many cases correct the letter-press.

The book on Birds is more carefully compiled, and being of the same size as the other, contains much more detail. The explanation of the chief differences between the Gallinae and the Columbidae is excellent, and many of the drawings in the latter part of the work are far from bad. We do not know why the Cassowary is not mentioned. The classification adopted is that of Mr. G. R. Gray's 'Genera of Birds.' A strong anti-Darwinian spirit is manifest throughout both works, and in some cases leads to amusing statements, as the following:—"The surfaces of lakes and ponds in tropical countries are frequently covered over with luxuriant vegetation to such a degree that they might almost be said to be carpeted with verdure too unstable to support the weight of birds of ordinary construction, and at the same time too dense to give passage to swimming waterfowl. To meet the requirements of such situations, which from their great extent are by no means unimportant, a numerous family has been specially constructed (the Jacanas), able by means of their lengthened toes, to walk over the floating leaves, and to give animation by their cries and their quarrels (!) to regions which without such contrivances would remain silent and desolate." Those who wish their children to be educated on such principles, should purchase these works.

The Owens College Junior Course of Practical Chemistry. By Henry E. Roscoe, F.R.S., and Francis Jones. (Macmillan & Co.)

THIS is a very useful little work. As the compilers say, it is intended to supplement the instruction given by the teacher rather than to supplant it; but even for those, and they are many, who are endeavouring to obtain some knowledge of chemistry without an instructor, this manual must prove an excellent guide. Mr. Roscoe, in the Preface, gives a few words of advice. The third paragraph is excellent:—"One of the first virtues in the practical chemist is cleanliness. Learn to work neatly, and you will soon obtain exact views of the science. *Those who work in a mess not unfrequently get their minds in a muddle.*" The assertion which we have italicized applies to other workers than chemists.

MOUNT SINAI.

(Concluded.)

In the Appendix to the 'Reisebericht über Hauran und die Trachonen' of Dr. I. G. Wetz-

stein, formerly Prussian Consul at Damascus, whose acquaintance I made at Sekka, near that city, and who obligingly accompanied my wife and myself to Hauran, as is related in her work, 'Jacob's Flight,' the learned author records a conversation he had at Berlin with Alexander von Humboldt and Carl Ritter, in April, 1859, respecting the geological specimens he had brought from the volcanic region of Trachonitis visited by him. The appearance of some of those specimens led Ritter to question whether the latest eruptions there may not have taken place within the period of history, and he referred to the eighteenth Psalm as seeming to indicate the occurrence of such an event in or near Palestine, in the time of King David; whilst Humboldt thought it very probable that the Koranic legend of the infidel people of antiquity whom God destroyed by means of a shower of stones, baked in hell fire, and inscribed with the names of those on whom they were destined to fall, may have had its origin in an actual volcanic eruption in Arabia.

"With what interest would that great man have learnt," writes Dr. Wetzstein, in September, 1859, "that, as I was turning over the leaves of Yakut's 'Geographical Lexicon,' only a few days ago, I found that the Arabians knew of the existence of eight-and-twenty different volcanic regions between Hauran and Bab-el-Mandeb!"

As regards these *Harras*, as they are called,—meaning, according to the Arabian definition, "tracks of country covered with rugged black stones that look burnt by fire,"—Dr. Wetzstein himself treats only of the northernmost one, namely, the Trachonitis of the ancients, known to Arabian writers as the Harra of the Radjil, on account of its lying to the north of the large *wady* of that name, it being the region described by him in his 'Reisebericht,' and since by Capt. Burton and Mr. Tyrwhitt Drake in their 'Unexplored Syria.' But I have just received from my old and valued friend, Prof. H. L. Fleischer, of Leipzig, a copy of an elaborate paper by Dr. Otto Loth, 'On the Volcanic Regions (Harras) of Arabia, according to Yakut,' in which these twenty-eight regions are described, and nearly all identified.

Among the numerous volcanoes thus found to exist within the Arabian Peninsula, the only one recorded as having been in activity within the historic period is the Harrat-el-Nar—Fire Harra—situate to the north-east of Medina, in the neighbourhood of Khaibur, in about 26° 30' N. lat. and 40° E. long., which, besides being traditionally said to have been in an active state six centuries before Mohammed, had actually an eruption in the time of the prophet's successor, Omar. To the north-west of this "Fire Harra" lies that known as the Harra of (the tribe of) Udhra; again, to the north of this, is the Harra of Tabuk, so called from the station of that name on the Hadj road from Damascus to Mekka, the position of which is in about 28° 15' N. lat. and 37° E. long.; and beyond this last, further to the north, and consequently between it and the northernmost Harra of the Radjil or Trachonitis, is the Harra Radjila. Of this Harra, or volcanic region, from its position, I conceive Mount Sinai to form a portion; and as its designation, which means "rough," "pathless," seems to indicate its peculiarly rugged surface, and to lead to the inference that it is an immense field of lava, it is, apparently, the "great and terrible wilderness" (Deut. i. 19), through which the Children of Israel were led on their way to Kadesh Barnea.

Except in the Hebrew Scriptures, as here interpreted, there is no record of any volcanic action in this district, or, in fact, anywhere within Arabia north of the "Fire Harra," near Medina. But this is of no real moment, because, unless the attention of writers happened to be expressly directed to the subject, they were quite as likely as not to pass it by unheeded. Of this a striking instance shall be adduced.

In the Italian province of Campania, in which Mount Vesuvius is situated, earthquakes were frequent; by some writers that mountain had been spoken of as an extinct volcano, and there was

even a tradition of its having once emitted flames. And yet the naturalist Pliny, when describing the coast of Campania, mentions without further notice, "Herculanum and Pompeii, whence Mount Vesuvius, watered by the River Sarnus, is visible at no great distance," little dreaming that he was shortly to lose his life from the eruption which so unexpectedly overwhelmed the two cities thus cursorily named by him.

The description given of this eruption by Pliny's nephew, in his well-known letters to the historian, Tacitus, demands special consideration in connexion with the present subject. In the first of those letters, he says, that when he was at Misenum with his mother and uncle, the former "observed the appearance of a cloud of unusual size and shape," which was seen gradually rising upwards, though from the great distance it was uncertain from which of the mountains it came, but it was eventually ascertained to be from Vesuvius. In appearance and shape it strongly resembled a tree: perhaps it was more like a pine than anything else, with a stem of enormous length, reaching upwards to the heavens, and then spreading out into numerous branches."

How the elder Pliny proceeded to Retina (Resina), and thence to Stabie (Castellamare), where he perished, suffocated by the noxious vapours from the flowing lava, is matter of history, and needs not to be repeated here. And of his nephew's account of the further progress of the eruption, all that bears on the present subject is the statement in his second letter, that, whereas during the daytime the matter ejected was as a cloud rising upwards, in appearance and shape resembling a tree; so, when the day fell, "vast sheets of flame and large bodies of fire were beheld rising from Mount Vesuvius, the glare and brilliancy of which were seen in bolder relief as the shades of night drew on apace."

The eruption of the same mountain in October, 1822, though far from being so intense or so extensive as that of the year 79, resembled it much in character and appearance, as I can testify from having, during its continuance, remained three days at Resina, and on the volcano itself, in company with the Abbatte Monticelli's able assistant, Signor Covelli.

Of a similar character, and seemingly fully as important as the eruption of Vesuvius in A.D. 79, appears also to have been that of Djebel Dubbeh, near Edh, on the Abyssinian coast, in May, 1861, described by me in the *Times* newspaper of June 20th and 21st, September 24th, and October 16th, of the same year; the ashes ejected from which volcano fell during several days at Mokha and Hodeida, and along the entire coast of Yemen, on the other side of the Red Sea, as far inland as the mountain range—a distance of full one hundred miles; whilst, on Djebel Dubbeh itself, even three or four months after the great eruption, nineteen craters were seen, of which (in the words of an eye-witness) "eighteen smoke in the daytime, and at night give light like a lamp"—an unconscious prosaic paraphrase of the words of Scripture respecting the eruption from Mount Sinai, "by day it was a pillar of a cloud, and by night a pillar of fire."

There ought not, then, to be any doubt of the fact that Mount Sinai is a volcano, which, though long extinct, was in a state of activity at the time of the Exodus; and, further, there is every reason to believe that this mountain forms part of the Harra Radjlâ, the rugged, pathless, volcanic region, "the great and terrible wilderness," in the north-west of the peninsula of Arabia, and to the east of the head of the Gulf of Akaba. It is, however, by means of a personal exploration alone that this momentous question can be set at rest; and such an exploration I am myself desirous of making, without loss of time.

In the *Athenæum*, No. 2135, of September 26th, 1868, the Rev. F. W. Holland appealed for assistance to enable him to "lay down the probable line of march of the Children of Israel," and to "estimate fairly the claims of the several rival Mounts Sinai," within the peninsula between the

Gulfs of Suez and Akaba; where, notwithstanding the admirable "Ordnance Survey" of that peninsula which has resulted from that appeal, the line of march of the Israelites naturally remains as uncertain as ever, and futile rivalry still exists among the several pseudo-Mounts Sinai.

If such an undertaking was deserving of public support, how much more so must be mine, its object being to determine absolutely the situation and character of the true "Mount of God," on which necessarily depends not only the line of march of the Children of Israel, but the whole history of the Exodus. I, therefore, confidently appeal to all those who desire the final solution of a question, the difficulties and doubts attending which, unhappily, have thrown discredit upon the truth of the Bible history, for the means to enable me to accomplish my contemplated exploration during the present spring.

I shall be happy to give any further information, and thankful to receive subscriptions, which may also be paid to Messrs. Glyn, Mills & Co., 67, Lombard Street, E.C., London, to my credit in account with Messrs. Hammond, Plumptre & Co., Canterbury Bank, or to Messrs. Hammond & Co. themselves.

CHARLES BEKE.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Feb. 6.—The President in the chair.—The Right Hon. H. E. C. Childers was admitted into the Society.—The following papers were read: 'On the Osteology of Hyopotamids,' by Dr. W. Kowalevsky, and 'Magnetic Survey of Belgium in 1871,' by the Rev. S. J. Perry.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Feb. 10.—Major-General Sir H. C. Rawlinson, K.C.B., President, in the chair.—The following Fellows were elected: Dr. F. Hirth, Messrs. R. E. Large, W. J. Mantle, and J. M. Spence.—The paper was 'On Discoveries East of Spitzbergen and Approaches towards the North Pole on the Spitzbergen Meridians,' by Mr. C. R. Markham, C.B.—The voyage of Barents, in 1596, was recapitulated, and the honour claimed for him of having been the discoverer of Spitzbergen; but it was argued, contrary to the opinion of some writers, that Barents did not proceed up the eastern side of Spitzbergen, but up the western. Hudson was the next to visit these islands, in 1607, and he was followed in the succeeding years by a succession of whaling adventurers, under the auspices of the Muscovy Company. The most successful of these was Thomas Edge, who discovered and named many islands and inlets, of which a map was given in Purchas's Pilgrims, but which have been unjustly re-named since, on the erroneous supposition that they were new, by Dutch, German, and other voyagers. After a review of all that had been done, down to the Swedish Expeditions, and those of English private gentlemen, Birkbeck, Lamont, and Leigh Smith, in recent years, the author concluded that no ship had ever yet passed round the eastern side of the archipelago, against which the ice pressed all through the summer, whilst the western and northern shores were free between July and September. To the east and north-east of the islands he believed there was another extensive tract of land or group of islands yet remaining to be visited. He quoted Scoresby and others to show that there was no evidence of the existence of land to the north of the islands and he believed there was no open sea in the height of summer, but that the loosened ice pressed away southward past Spitzbergen, even from the Pole itself, leaving only lanes and small spaces of open water. He maintained that it was not a route to be recommended for a national expedition making scientific investigations towards the Pole; but that Smith Sound, with its long lines of coast trending northwards, giving the safeguard of the land, was the best route.

GEOLOGICAL.—Feb. 5.—W. Smyth, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Messrs. T. Checkley, J. Mackenzie, J. O. Middleton, W. Rowley, and G. W. Shrubsole, were elected Fellows.—The following communi-

cation was read:—'On the Oolites of Northamptonshire, Part II.' by Mr. S. Sharp.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 6.—A. W. Franks, Esq., Director, in the chair.—Mr. E. Freshfield exhibited two Persian or Armenian pictures painted on what had been the boards of a book.—Mr. H. Godwin communicated a paper 'On Donnington Castle.'

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Feb. 7.—Sir S. D. Scott, Bart., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Fortnum read some notes 'On a Roman Key-like Finger-Ring of Gold, and a bi-cephalic Signet of the same Metal,' which were illustrated by a series of Roman key-rings in bronze and gold and by two Roman fibulæ of bronze.—Mr. E. A. Freeman gave a discourse upon the 'Early Church of Bradford-on-Avon.' His attention had been re-directed to this subject by some recently printed remarks, from Mr. J. H. Parker, C.B., on the church of St. Mary, Guildford, in which the latter antiquary stated that "in the interval between A.D. 500 to 1000 it appears to have been the general custom in most parts of the world to live in wooden houses, and to use wood almost entirely for other buildings also." This was said to be owing partly to the deficiency of skilled workmen and to the general belief that the world would come to an end at the year 1000. Mr. Freeman controverted this position, showing the existence of many examples of structures in stone on the Continent and in England built within the period named. The small early church at Bradford is another example of those structures, and the evidence of William of Malmesbury, who was a competent authority, that it is the work of the eighth century, is, he thought, fully borne out by the existing remains.—Sir Gilbert Scott considered Mr. Freeman had fully proved his case, and wondered how any one could doubt the existence of many such early structures. There was no difficulty in deciding between "Norman" and "Pre-Norman" work.—Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Ferrey discussed several points; and Mr. Waller made some remarks on the drapery of the figures in the ornamentation of the church.—Lord Digby sent a bronze brooch lately found in King's County, Ireland. It had a special type of ornamentation, and was probably of the ninth century.—The Rev. J. E. Walby forwarded a sword of one of the De Veres, Earls of Oxford in the time of Charles the First (?).—Mr. Soden Smith brought two early bronze rings of the Roman period which had been found at Silchester, and an antique silver ring, with bronze key attached, having on the bezel a representation of a fisherman and inscription.—The Rev. A. C. Smith sent a Roman dice of bronze, which had been lately found at Wans, in Wiltshire.—The Chairman exhibited a small collection of Roman and other remains, chiefly mediæval, found in the City of London.—The Rev. E. Venables sent a thumb-ring of steel, lined with gold, found in the ruins of the Benedictine Priory of St. Mary Magdalen, Lincoln. The ring was probably of the eighteenth century.—Mr. Spurrell exhibited two flint implements found on the surface at Erith.—Mr. Mathews contributed two bracelets formed of gold coins of the time of Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, and Elizabeth, which had been found in a bag with others, about twenty, hid in the thatch of a cottage at Malpas, Cheshire.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Feb. 4.—Prof. Huxley, V.P., in the chair.—Letters and communications were read: from the Rev. S. J. Whitmee, of Samoa, on some birds intended for the Society's collection,—from Mr. H. W. Piers, on a specimen of the *Chimara Australis*,—by Mr. E. Blyth, on some Tiger Skins from India, Birmah, and Siberia,—from Mr. R. Meldola, on a certain class of cases of variable protective colouring in insects,—from Mr. G. Gulliver, containing a series of measurements of the Red Blood Corpuscles of various Batrachians,—by Dr. A. Günther, on certain species of Reptiles and Batrachians, obtained by Dr.

A. B. Meyer in Celebes and the Philippine Islands, —from Mr. A. G. Butler, containing a monographic revision of the genera *Zephronia* and *Sphaerotherium* of the sub-order Myriopoda, together with descriptions of some new species of these genera, —from Mr. G. F. Angus, on eight species of Land and Marine Shells from various localities, —by Messrs. P. L. Sclater and O. Salvin, the sixth of a series of papers 'On Peruvian Birds, collected by Mr. H. Whitely, in the Andes of Peru': the present communication contained an account of eighty species, collected principally at Cosnipetz, in the province of Cuzco, —from Mr. H. Whitely, containing notes on the Humming Birds collected and observed by him in the Andes of Peru, —from Dr. J. E. Gray, on the genus *Ocadia*, which he considered should be referred to the family Bataguridae.

CHEMICAL.—Feb. 6.—Dr. Williamson, V.P., in the chair.—A communication was made by Dr. H. G. Armstrong, 'On the Action of Sodium on Aniline.'—A paper, 'On Anthrapurpurine,' by Mr. W. H. Perkin, was read. Anthrapurpurine is a colouring matter which accompanies alizarine in the crude "artificial alizarine" now so largely manufactured and employed in dyeing instead of madder. Like alizarine, it is capable of imparting brilliant and fast colours to cloth mordanted with alumina or iron.—The last communication, 'On Isomerism in the Terpene Family of Hydrocarbons,' was read by Dr. C. R. A. Wright. In it he gives an account of his experiments with oil of nutmegs and oil of orange peel.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Feb. 7.—Rev. Dr. R. Morris in the chair.—The paper read was, 'On the Physical Constituents of Accent and Emphasis,' by Mr. A. J. Ellis. Referring to the undulatory curves produced in the phonantograph as the best graphic representations of sound, Mr. Ellis distinguished in them: 1st, *length*, or the fraction of a second during which the form of the undulation remains unchanged; 2nd, *pitch*, or the number of times that a complete undulation is performed in one second of time; 3rd, *force*, which depends on the square of the amplitude, or greatest departure of an undulation from the mean position; and, 4th, *form*, or the particular shape of the undulation. Every speech-sound has a generic form of its own, which varies specifically in various ways, and especially with pitch and force. The two principal specific changes are *clearness* and *obscurity*. Pitch, force, and form are continually altering insensibly by *glides*. The pitch-glide is heard in a violin *glissade* and voice *portamento*, and the force-glide in *diminuendo* and *crescendo*. The syllable or speech-unit consists of generically different forms, connected by form-glides. The generic forms in syllables are fixed, so that any change in them alters the meaning of the syllable. The specific differences may be *fixed* or *free*. The *fixed class* includes *accent*, and the native *intonation of sentences*. The *free class* comprehends *emphasis* and *rhetorical expression*. The means are length, pitch, force, form, succession, glide, jump, and silence, of which the three first are most important for accent. In English, monosyllables, having no fixed length or force, have no accent, but may receive any amount of emphasis. In polysyllables, English accent consists of fixed force, with free pitch, with a distinction of clearness and obscurity. The same is true, with the exception of clearness and obscurity, and with other restrictions, for German and Italian. In French, within certain limits, force and pitch, and even length, are practically free, so that there is no accent, but only emphasis. In Greek and Latin, *fixed syllabic length* was the governing principle of utterance, and into this the length of final consonants sensibly entered, forming "position." The length more or less determined the *direction of change of pitch*, which was fixed for every word, including monosyllables. But there is nothing to show that *force* was fixed; on the contrary, there is reason to suppose that it was as free as pitch is in English. Force may have

been comparatively fixed on the *ictus* in verse, and if so must have varied at pleasure in words. The modern substitution of force for pitch in Romanic and Italian, seems to have arisen from an early disregard of length. When length by position ceased to be felt, as in English, the syllable of greatest pitch became most prominent, and naturally attracted the greatest force. In Romanic this substitution is complete. But the Romanic habit of reading ancient Greek verse with a force accent on the *ictus*, to the neglect of the force accent on the acute syllable, may be also historically derived. Mr. Ellis concluded by reading several Greek and Latin passages in various metres, to show what would be the effect on classical versification, of supposing length and pitch to be fixed, and force to be free.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Asiatic, 3.
- Entomological, 7.
- Victoria Institute, 8.
- British Architects, 8.—'Medieval Brickwork of Pomerania and Mecklenburg,' Mr. J. T. Perry.
- Royal Academy, 8.—'Sculpture,' Mr. H. Weekes.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'Enciphering of the Imponderables, with Special Reference to the Measurement and Utilization of Them,' Lecture III., Rev. A. Rigg (Cantor Lecture).
- United Service Institution, 8.—'Fleet Evolutions and Naval Tactics,' Com. C. Bridges.
- Tower's Speed Indicator and Governor, Vice-Admiral Ryder.
- Tues.** Royal Institution, 3.—'Forces and Motions of the Body,' Prof. Rutherford.
- Statistical, 7.—'Bill Circulation, with some Banking Statistics,' Mr. E. H. I. Paigrove.
- Anthropological, 8.—'Macedonian,' Sir J. Lubbock; 'Relation of the Parish Boundaries in the South-East of England to Great Physical Features, particularly to the Chalk Escarpment,' W. Topley.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—'Renewed Discussion 'On the Gauge for the Indian State Railways.'
- Zoological, 8.—'Hydroids collected during the Expeditions of H. M. S. Porcupine,' Prof. G. J. Allman; 'Egithorathous Birds,' Mr. W. K. Parker; 'Anatomy of the Bisturong (*Arctiota bisturong*),' Mr. A. H. Garrod.
- Wed.** Meteorological, 7.—'Electrical Self-Registering Anemometer and Rain-Gauge,' Rev. F. W. Stow; 'Madras Cyclone of May 2nd, 1873,' Capt. H. Toynbee; 'Storm of the 21st-23rd of August, 1868, over the British Isles,' Capt. T. O. Watson; 'Results of Meteorological Telegraphy,' Mr. B. H. Scott.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'The Virginians, their Agricultural, Mineral, and Commercial Resources,' Major Hotchkiss.
- Chemical, 8.—'Auriferous,' Mr. R. S. Dale and Dr. C. Schorlemmer; 'Action of Copper Zinc Couple on Organic Bodies, I., On Iodide of Ethyl,' Dr. Gladstone and Mr. A. Tribe; 'Solidification of Nitrocellulose,' Mr. S. S. Acton; 'Action of Hydrochloric Acid on Cellulose,' Dr. C. R. A. Wright.
- Thurs.** Royal Institution, 3.—'Formation of Organic Substances,' Dr. Armstrong.
- Numismatic, 7.
- Linnean, 8.
- Aquarists, 8.—'Funeral Expenses of James Montagu, Bishop of Winchester, A.D. 1618,' Mr. E. P. Shirley.
- Fri.** Geological, 1.—'Anniversary.
- Philological, 8.—'Local Surnames,' Miss F. Nisbett; 'Notes on the Dialects of the Indian Manner of Nigarsu,' Mr. C. C. Blake; 'On the Digma, &c.,' Mr. C. B. Cayley.
- Royal Institution, 8.—'Action at a Distance,' Prof. C. Maxwell.
- Sat.** Royal Institution, 8.—'Comparative Politics,' Dr. E. A. Freeman.

Science Gossip.

AN arrangement has recently been effected according to which announcements of astronomical discoveries are now forwarded, free of charge, between Europe and America, by the Atlantic Cable. As the first-fruits of this arrangement, intelligence was received at the end of last week, of the discovery in America of another new planet, which will reckon as No. 129 of the long list of Minor Planets. As eleven of these bodies were discovered in the course of last year, the number seems by no means to be exhausted, and increasing difficulty is found in providing names for them. Of the present little stranger, nothing further is yet known.

WE understand that the Rev. Thomas Hincks, F.R.S., is now engaged in preparing a 'History of the British Polyzoa,' which will appear at an early date. Mr. Van Voorst is to be the publisher.

THE discussion about Pogson's Comet, is by no means completed. Prof. Oppolzer has published another paper on the subject, and is quite convinced that the comet seen by Mr. Pogson moves in the orbit of Biela. Though the times of perihelion passage disagree considerably, and are so far opposed to the theory of the identity of those bodies, the circumstance may, he thinks, be accounted for by the fact that the perturbations acting on Biela's Comet have not been calculated since 1866, when the elements were re-determined by Signor Michez, of Padua, for the appearance which was then expected. But this can hardly account for the whole difficulty; for on this supposition, how is it that the comet was not seen at that return, which was a very favourable one, and when it was most anxiously looked for? At any rate, it is evidently incumbent upon astronomers to carry on the perturbations to the present time: till then, we must

suspend our judgment on a matter which is not yet fully understood.

BESIDES the gentlemen named in our last issue, Professor King, of Queen's College, Galway, and Professor Morris, of University College, London, are candidates for the Woodwardian Professorship of Geology at Cambridge.

MR. ST. JOHN VINCENT DAY read, on the 4th of last December, before the Philosophical Society of Glasgow, an interesting paper, 'On some Evidences as to the very Early Use of Iron,' in which he has collected all the more remarkable examples which the Assyrian and Babylonian ruins have afforded, together with those of Egypt and of Central Asia. Especially has he described the celebrated Delhi pillar, a shaft of iron not less than forty-eight feet in length, which was produced in the third or fourth century.

THE general laws governing the distribution of lead-ore in Alston Moor, carefully deduced by Mr. W. Wallace, from extended observations in that locality, have been applied by Mr. De Rance to an examination of the mineral veins in other parts of the north-west of England.

SOME interesting observations on the spectrum of the Bessemer flame have recently been made at the works of the Barrow Hematite Steel Company, by Dr. W. M. Watts. He finds that certain lines in the spectrum, not coincident with known lines of any elementary substance, and hitherto an enigma to the spectroscopist, are due to the presence of oxide of manganese.

THE following explains itself:—"Finding that the *Elgin Courier* takes exception to the very seasonable caution on the subject of the possible existence of coal in Elginshire, in your 'Science Gossip' of the 1st inst., it may be advisable for me to state, that the writer in your pages has taken that pains to ascertain my real views on the subject, which the editor of your northern contemporary has evidently thought to be unnecessary.

J. W. JUDD."

SINCE the finding of *Archæopteryx*, no more remarkable palæontological discovery has been made than that of *Ichthyornis*, just made public by Prof. Marsh, of Yale College. This extraordinary cretaceous animal, whilst entirely agreeing with the true birds in the characters of the scapular arch and the bones of the legs and wings, possessed biconcave vertebrae, thus approximating to the Piscine type of organization. A more remarkable peculiarity, however, than even this is found in the fact that both jaws possessed well developed teeth. The jaws do not seem to have been encased in a horny sheath, and the teeth were numerous, small, compressed, and pointed, and were implanted in distinct sockets. Whether the tail was elongated, as in *Archæopteryx*, or not, has not been made out. Marsh concludes that *Ichthyornis dispar* was about as large as a pigeon, carnivorous, and probably aquatic. Systematists will probably be inclined to place the species of *Ichthyornis* in a new order of the reptiles, more ornithine than either the *Deinosauria* or the *Pterodactyles*. Prof. Marsh, however, proposes to form for their reception a new division, to be called *Odontorhynchus*, placing them in a new order under the name of *Ichthyorhynchus*. He also speculates on the probability that *Archæopteryx* likewise belongs to this class, and that it possesses biconcave vertebrae and teeth.

A VERY high degree of accuracy has been attained in observations on changes of declination and of the horizontal component of the earth's magnetic force by the use of Gauss's instruments; but variations in the third element of terrestrial magnetism—the vertical component—have not been observed with equal accuracy. Herr H. Wild has, therefore, devised a new instrument, called the vertical magnetometer, for the purpose of making such observations. This instrument is used in the magnetic observatory of St. Petersburg.

IN an article on earthquakes, in the current number of the *Geological Magazine*, Mr. H. P. Malet maintains that these phenomena are not dependent on volcanic action, or on contraction of

the Earth's crust, but are produced by the subsidence of certain areas of the Earth's surface.

A CORRESPONDENT inquires—"Whether should one write aluminum, or aluminium, or, as the Germans, aluminium? Until M. H. Ste. Claire Deville introduced the metal to commerce, nearly twenty years ago, the English spelling was aluminium, since which time the French aluminium has gradually displaced the older, and, I venture to think, the better form, for aluminium has a mincing sound."

SIGNOR LUIGI PARAZZI has written a work on 'Notizie d' un Viaggio nella Luna dell' astronomo Littrow, con Appendice e Misura del Tempo studiata nei Moti Celesti.' The first part consists of a version of Littrow's paper on a Voyage in the Moon, the appendix treats of astronomical phenomena, and the last part is entirely original.

PROF. LEONARDO SALIMEENI has edited three scientific treatises of Ludovico Antonio Muratori. The first, hitherto unpublished, is on the 'Fall of Mercury in the Barometrical Tube in Rainy Seasons,' the second is on 'The Electric Battery and Electric Shocks,' and the third is on 'The Causes of the Plague.'

THE *Scientific American* gives an account of a process, invented by Mr. Hugo Tamm, for obtaining metallic manganese in large quantities from its ores. The process is said to be a cheap and easy one, ground glass and fluor spar being the fluxes employed. Manganese enters so largely into the manufacture of steel, and is said to improve the quality of iron so much, that this invention must be of considerable value.

WE learn from the *Wallaroo Times* of December 4th (South Australia), that the proprietors of the Moonta copper-mine have prepared a very remarkable collection of specimens for our next International Exhibition, consisting of purple ore, black oxide of copper, and ruby ore, together with "marvellously beautiful" examples of native copper. The same journal prints a letter from Mr. Andrew Hume, who, it will be remembered, was despatched in search of Leichardt's papers, of which he stated he knew something. This letter is dated from Lawson Creek, Newcastle Lake, August 15th, 1872.

THE Monthly Record of the meteorology and the magnetism taken at the Melbourne Observatory, for October, is before us. The mean height of the barometer for the month was 29.919 inches, and the mean temperature of the air was 57°, being the same as the average of the preceding fourteen years.

PROF. BUNSEN publishes, in the *Ann. Chem. Pharm.*, a letter, dated Heidelberg, Nov. 5, 1872, in which he disclaims all pretensions to "the interesting discovery that, by means of columns of liquids flowing downwards, a more perfect vacuum can be produced than was possible by the air-pumps hitherto in use," and states it "belongs solely and only to Dr. Sprengel." We are glad to give all publicity to this statement, which, authorized by Prof. Bunsen, appears also in the *Chemical News*, many persons having mistakenly attributed the invention to the Heidelberg professor.

THE physometer is a new philosophical instrument, devised by Herr P. Harting, and constructed by W. Olland, of Utrecht. The object of this apparatus is to determine variations in a given volume of confined air, and it has already been applied to observations on the expansion and contraction of air in the swimming-bladder of fishes.

SOME new Graptolites from the shales of the Quebec group of Point Levis, Quebec, have been described by Prof. A. H. Nicholson, of Toronto. The same naturalist has also described some new species of fossil tubicolous annelides, from the Lower Silurian rocks of Cincinnati.

PROF. RILEY, of St. Louis, has discovered that the fertilization of the Yucca, or "Adam's Needle," is effected by the agency of a small moth, called *Pronuba yuccasella*. Where the yucca is cultivated, but not accompanied by the insect, as is the case in this country, the plant can never produce seed.

FINE ARTS

INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS will SHORTLY CLOSE their WINTER EXHIBITION of SKETCHES, &c. OPEN from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 53, Pall Mall. JAMES FAHEY, Sec.

DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—GENERAL EXHIBITION of WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.—THE NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OPEN DAILY, from Ten a.m. till Six p.m.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. G. L. HALL, Hon. Sec.

DORÉ'S GREAT PICTURE of 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM,' with 'Triumph of Christianity,' 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Francesca de Rimini,' 'Neophyte,' 'Titania,' &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s.

RECENT ETCHINGS.

WE have received from Mrs. Noseda 'Thirteen Etchings,' by Mr. J. P. Haseltine, a work which is issued in that style of luxurious roughness—the expression is by no means paradoxical—which at present characterizes etchings. It used to be said that no one wore rougher pea-jackets than a certain lay Lord of the Admiralty; and in the practice of an art which is, or should be, among the most precise and delicate of human handicrafts embodying the super-subtle skill of the long-trained draughtsman, etchers seem to delight in nothing so much as scratches and blots, and, while toiling for dear life, send their studies forth without names or numbers. Indeed, they absolutely rejoice in mounts that are rough from the mill and crudely blue, and revel in India paper, the costliness of which is known only to experts. In the luxury of etchers, as in the lay lord's shaggy pea-jacket, there is some affectation. No one knows better than M. Delâtre, who printed Mr. Haseltine's etchings, what trouble it costs to reproduce such works so admirably; and no one knows so well as the artist what it costs to gain the magical, and yet unobtrusive skill which is shown in the herbage, mere ragged sward under old apple-trees, in the foreground of the view of an old barn, in sunlight. We can only form a conjecture about the studies which enabled Mr. Haseltine to give to the sky a light that is luminous, but not glaring. It shines on an English plain, with bushes and a pine in the foreground, and one subtly marked knoll far off on the horizon, and little belts of trees, with light on the earth beyond their shadows, and clumps of herbage here and there. The surface of the herbage, also, not less, the tone and "colour" of the weather-beaten old barn itself, are charming, and all the elements are exquisite. Both these works, the barn especially, suffer, in our opinion, from the obvious sacrifice of the tone and solidity of nearly every portion to the perfection of one element. The great masters have worked in this fashion, it is true,—we need hardly mention 'The Three Trees' of Rembrandt,—but it is at once an exceptional and an exceptional mode. Its worst effects are seen in the blundering of ostentatious amateurs, who, being incapable of solid work, aim at achieving much by pretending much. But Mr. Haseltine is not a blundering amateur. He can deal delicately with refined effects, e.g., the twilight of the frosty scene near Lewes, which is capital. This subject has tried his draughtsmanship; for are there not three wooden posts and as many horizontal rails, the forms of which do not contain a tenth part so much of what one may call the biography of the objects, as Bewick's Quakerish little wood-blocks,—for example, in that one which was done for a child's spelling-primer, published in a country town, printed on "whitey-brown" paper, and sold for pence, along with three more (Hugo, 1619)? But then Bewick, the marvellous man, with a hand which would not have shamed Holbein, although displaying minute learning which must delight Mr. Ruskin, did not essay tone and "colour," did not give the fading, icy brightness of the sky before us, nor the "keeping" of the high chalk down that hides the horizon here, nor the manifold tints of the herbage in front. One must be a Rembrandt if one wishes to compass all things.

There is a range of ragged barns at Chiddingfold, half devoted to timber, half to carts, with a queer weather-beaten old chimney standing in the sun, and no end of frowzy herbage, which, to our

advantage, charmed Mr. Haseltine. There is a bit of curving roadway between a pond and a railing, with slender trees at the edge of a meadow on our left, with more meadows on the other side, and all in sunlight, the richness of which is enjoyable. There is a bit of the flattest of flat shores at Southwold, ending in a sea which is flatter than the shore, where a watch-box seems like a mountain, and a capstan is gigantic. Here the artist has not failed to produce a miniature of a mid-distance, houses and trees,—so that there is nothing lost, except what is inferior to nothing in importance, the keeping of the landscape as a whole. Sunlight falls between the boughs in the orchard at "Furlongers, near Chiddingfold"; here are poultry, and a duck or two, an old well, and the shady side of a barn, tree trunks leaning in all ways. This etching is charming in its simplicity, delicacy of feeling for nature, and, in the land part, as distinct from the foliage, comprises nearly faultless herbage, stems, and shadows. But the foliage seems to lack force as well as breadth of tone, to say nothing of precision in handling. There are other etchings which display the above-named effects from various points of view. Especially to be noted is the entrance to a park at Ryndhurst, a small but beautiful work. We commend the whole collection to students and amateurs, as among the best and most delightful of recent examples of an art which seems to be so popular. Finally, we may suggest to etchers the necessity of cultivating the severer modes of draughtsmanship, without which their works lose incalculably in pure art. It is one thing to give with some success a broad and dashing study of effect, and another to combine admirable form with the mysteries of chiaroscuro and tone. At present, the latter only seem in vogue.

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL.

MESSRS. MARION send us 'The Albert Memorial, illustrated by Twenty-nine Photographs,' a neat volume, with excellent and remarkably clear views of the Albert Memorial and its sculptures. The official name sufficiently indicates the greatest blunder, if not the greatest folly, connected with the Memorial. Take the sculptured groups supposed to refer to Prince Albert. Some connexion between Europe and the deceased Prince is conceivable, but what on earth had he to do with 'Asia,' 'Africa,' and 'America'? Besides, why not 'Australia,' 'Australasia,' and 'Polynesia,' as well as the old-fashioned four? It is useless to say that as there are only four corners to the "Memorial," we could have but four groups. The architect should have seen to this, and provided more corners if necessary. Four other groups illustrate 'Agriculture,' 'Manufactures,' 'Commerce,' and 'Engineering.' Whether these have any connexion with the Prince's career we cannot say. Then comes a long array of poets and musicians, painters, sculptors, and architects; so that here we have personified and subordinated to a well-meaning, well-educated gentleman all the greatness of the human intellect. Guido D'Arezzo, Homer—why not Hesiod?—Cheops (!) who ranks as a sculptor, Bezaleel, Hiram, King of Tyre, &c. The thing, as a memorial of the Prince, is at once preposterous and false. The disgust of educated men has long ago given place to a feeling of cold contempt.

The monument, as it is, represents, not unfairly, the hopes and aspirations excited by the Exhibition of 1851. Call the structure the Cross of Lost Hopes, or the Optimists' Memorial, and we shall in some degree comprehend the intentions of the sculptors. There is a difficulty about the statue which is to be placed under the canopy, and which has been too much for one amateur-sculptor; and even Mr. Foley feels the task a heavy one. Let us, then, leave the pedestal vacant, the canopy without a statue, and so symbolize at once the magnificence and the vainness of our hopes. Let Mr. Foley's statue be put up somewhere else, among the living men whom Prince Albert was anxious to serve.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold the under-named pictures on Saturday last:—Mr. W. E. Frost, *Musidora*, 100 guineas.—MM. De Noler and P. Knarren, *Interior*, with a lady and dog, 141 gs.—T. Creswick, *View on the Llugwy*, and the Bridge at Bettws y Coed, 269 gs.—Mr. T. S. Cooper, 131 gs.—Mr. E. Nicol, *Both Puzzled*, replica, 330 gs.—Mr. J. Sant, *Meditation*, 136 gs.—Mr. Elmore, *A Lady contemplating a Miniature*, 113 gs.

The same auctioneers sold, on Monday last, a very large number of engravings of the pictures by Sir Joshua Reynolds, many of which obtained remarkably large prices.—Mrs. Abington, by E. Jenkins, proof before letters, 25 guineas.—The same, by Watson, 30½ gs.—The Duchess of Ancaster, 24 gs.—Lady Aylesford, by V. Green, 30 gs.—Mlle. Barelli, first state, proof, 25 gs.—Lady Bamfylde, T. Watson, 140 gs.—Lady Beaumont, J. R. Smith, 25½ gs.—Miss Bowles, W. Ward, proof before letters, 40 gs.—Mrs. Carnac, J. R. Smith, 41 gs.—Miss Jacobs, Spilsbury, 30 gs.—Nelly O'Brien, 51 gs.—Marchioness of Salisbury, V. Green, 41 gs.—Lady Talbot, 36 gs.

The under-named pictures were sold at the Hôtel Druot, on the 18th ultimo:—M. Corot, *L'Étang de Ville d'Avray*, 4,150 francs; *Les Environs de Mantes*, 2,500 fr.; *Paysage*, 2,900 fr.—M. Daubigny, *Paysage*, 3,600 fr.—M. Dupré, *Paysage*, *Environs de l'île Adam*, 2,370 fr.—*Décamps*, *Samson Prisonnier*, 1,000 fr.—M. Dupré, *L'Abreuvoir*, *Paysage*, 2,755 fr.—M. Verboeckhoeven, *Ane et Moutons au Pâturage*, 2,850 fr.—M. Diaz, *Forêt de Fontainebleau*, 4,900 fr.

Fine-Art Gossip.

THE members of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours propose, in future, to ballot for candidates for admission to their Society not oftener than once a year. For the present year, the 24th of March next is the day appointed; the time, three o'clock in the afternoon, in order to secure the advantage of daylight during the examination of competitors' drawings. The current Winter Exhibition of the Institute will close on the 15th of March. The Summer Exhibition will be opened on the 28th of April.

MR. ARTOX stated in the House of Commons, last Monday night, that the cause of the delay in proceeding with the new Courts of Justice was the great number and extreme intricacy of the plans and drawings required before the surveyors could calculate the quantities, so as to enable builders to tender for the execution of the works. The drawings are about 300 in number; they are now ready, and tenders for contracts will, it is expected, be received by the 25th proximo. The delay, therefore, has been inevitable; but it has been sufficient to give new life to the exploded proposal to erect the Law Courts on the Thames Embankment. We trust that Temple Bar will be removed before many months are past, by means of the fulfilment of the contracts in question. We should be among the last to propose the removal, still less the destruction, of an historical memorial which had agreeable associations, but this one has none but those which are hideous or childish. Good architecture is worthy of respect, but that of Temple Bar is probably as bad as it can be, being the worst specimen of the architect's designing.

THE Commissioners of the London International Exhibition for the current year wisely endeavoured to induce the Society of Painters in Water Colours and the Institute of Painters in Water Colours to contribute to the forthcoming London International Exhibition, offering to set apart any space specially for each body, and to leave the hanging, &c., of pictures to the members themselves. Both Societies declined to accept these offers. Members of either body are, of course, free to act independently and individually, but the Societies will not take part in the proposed displays. Nor was it likely that they would do so.

MR. R. M. SPENCE writes to us,—"Shakspeare thus alludes to objects similar to the 'Holbein enigma' so ingeniously solved by Mr. Woodward in the *Athenæum* of January 25:—

Like perspectives, which rightly gazed upon
Show nothing but confusion, eyed awry
Distinguish first; so your sweet majesty,
Looking awry upon your lord's departure,
Finds shapes of grief more than himself to wail.

Richard II. act ii. sc. 2."

As few would suppose that Mr. E. M. Ward's best picture had been sold for a trifle more than 300 guineas, it ought to be superfluous to state that 'The Last Sleep of Argyll,' which was sold with Mr. Pender's pictures the other day at some such price, as reported in these columns, was but a small replica.

M. MASSALOFF's series of etchings, illustrating with considerable success the masterpieces in the Hermitage, St. Petersburg, show what might be done for our National Gallery. The publication of etchings by clever artists, such as M. Massaloff's, those by Herr Unger, from pictures in the galleries of Brunswick and Cassell, tends to cultivate the public taste. The spirit and fineness, as well as cheapness of these transcripts, are unrivalled.

THE municipal authorities of Paris have set to work in earnest to secure a prompt re-construction of their Hôtel de Ville. Members have been definitely appointed with charges in regard to divers portions of the work.

M. GUILLAUME COMBROUSE, archaeologist and numismatist, died on the 19th ultimo, in Paris. His services to the history of Art had been great, and continued during the longer portion of his life. His principal works were, 'Monnaies de France, 1839-40,' 4 vols., 'Décameron Numismatique,' 'Monuments de la Maison de France,' &c., 1856. These publications were enriched with numerous engravings of high merit. M. Combrouse was born in 1808.

WE have received from Messrs. Pilgeram and Lefèvre, artists' proofs of Mr. Simmons's plate after Mr. T. Faed's picture, 'A wee bit Fractious,' and also of Mr. F. Stackpoole's plate, after the same painter's 'Sunday Afternoon.' The former represents a "fractious" child, seated on its mother's knee, and being caressed into a more placid state of temper, while the little dog listens, amazed. The latter shows the exterior of a Scottish cottage in a bland afternoon. A young woman, conscious of the approach of her sweetheart, sits with her book of prayers turned down on her knee; at her side, a child nurses a kitten in its apron; the discreet mother has retired to a distance. The maiden meditates, with finger on chin; her thoughts are not solely on heaven. These engravings make a capital "pair," as the phrase is; and the engravers have rendered nearly everything the pictures owe to the painters—expressions, keeping, colour, or sentiment. Even the suppressed, homely humour of the designs is given with considerable success. Of the two, the latter is the less rich; indeed, the former does not quite equal the original in richness of execution. The thousands who so heartily enjoy Mr. Faed's compositions and attractive style of thinking and painting, should welcome these capital transcripts. 'A wee bit Fractious' was at the Academy Exhibition in 1871.

It has been asserted, in a pamphlet recently published by M. Charvet, that the splendid wrought-iron banister which formerly ornamented the stairs of the National Library in Paris, and was displaced in consequence of alterations in the building, has been sold as old iron for 48l. Its original cost exceeded 4,000l. According to the same authority, an English amateur would have bought it since for a little less than 1,000l.

MUSIC

WAGNER SOCIETY.—FIRST CONCERT, February 18, at 8½ precisely.—Queen's Concert Rooms, Hanover Square.—Orchestra of Eighty Performers. Vocalist, Herr Franz Diener. Conductor, Mr. Edward Dappeneuther. 'Tannhäuser' Overture; Prayer, 'Rienzi'; Selection, 'Lohengrin'; Overture and Introduction to Third Act, 'Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg'; 'Kaiser March'; Tickets, Reserved, One Guinea; Unreserved, Half-a-Guinea. Stanley Lucas, Weber, 84, New Bond Street; Schott, 150, Regent Street; A. Hays, 4, Royal Exchange Buildings; and usual Agents; also at the Hanover Square Rooms.

BY SPECIAL DESIRE.—SIXTH AND LAST BRITISH ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.—THURSDAY, February 20, St. James's Hall, 8.30. Patron, H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh. Conductor, Mr. G. Mount. Madam Florence Lancini, Madame Fatey, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Mr. Santley. Pianoforte, Mr. J. Francis Barrett. Clarinet, Mr. Lazarus. Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Tickets, 5s., 4s., 2s., and 1s.; of all Agents.

MR. WALTER BACH'S NINTH ANNUAL ORCHESTRAL CONCERT, FRIDAY EVENING, February 22, St. James's Hall, 8.30. List, 15th Psalm, first performance in England; Schumann's Concerto in A minor, Pianoforte, Mr. Walter Bach; Wagner's 'Huldigungs-Marsch' (first time), &c. Miss Sophie Ferrari, Miss Georgina Maudslay, Mr. Henry Guy. Principal Violin, Herr Strauss; Accompanist, Dr. Heap; Conductors, Mr. Manns and Mr. Walter Bach. Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Area, 5s.; Balcony, 2s.; Admission, 1s. Stanley, Lucas, Weber & Co., 84, New Bond Street; usual Agents; and Austin's Ticket-Office, St. James's Hall.

OPERA AND CONCERTS IN BRUSSELS.

THE Concerts Populaires de Musique Classique in the Belgian capital are doing much to diffuse a knowledge and a proper appreciation of the highest order of orchestral works. The Association, now in its eighth year, has been sustained chiefly by the subscriptions of amateurs; but such has been its success this season, that there is every prospect of its being self-supporting for the future. M. Samuel, a Professor of Ghent, was the founder of the concerts, which were originally given in the Cirque, but have been transferred to the Théâtre Royal de Monnaie. As at the Conservatoire and Padeloup concerts, Sunday afternoon is the time selected for the performances. M. Vieuxtemps, the violinist, is now the conductor. It is his first year, and he bids fair to become a very clever *chef*. His beat is clear and firm; and if he will diminish his physical exertion and rely on the *bâton*, combined with the eye's glance for anticipating the attack of the executants, he may take rank as a director of the first order. At the fourth programme, his reading of the 'Leonora' Overture, Op. 138, showed his intimate acquaintance with the Beethoven score. This prelude is not often played in London. Berlioz introduced it here some years since, and it is frequently given at the Gewandhaus in Leipzig. When Herr Manns included the three 'Leonora' Overtures, all in c, and the 'Fidelio' one in e, during the Beethoven series (October 29, 1870), Op. 138 made a decided impression, although there is no doubt the 'Fidelio' in e, and the 'Leonora' in c, No. 3, Op. 72b, are the most popular works, the trumpet blast and scale rush of the violins in the latter always producing prodigious excitement. M. Vieuxtemps's forces exhibited in the 'Characterische Ouverture' their executive skill very favourably. There are thirty first and second violins, and thirty altos, violoncellos, and double-basses, equally divided; the wood, brass, and percussion form the customary complement; but there are three flutes and three bassoons. In the introduction, the *andante*, the first violins were brilliant and just in tone; the wood in the second subject showed advantageously, and more so still in the 'Florestan' motif. The *finale* was most vigorously attacked and carried through. The next item in the scheme, concluding the first part, was the Concerto in f minor, Op. 16, composed by Herr Adolphe Henselt, of St. Petersburg, and executed by the most intellectual pianist of this age, Herr Hans von Bulow, who has been making a tour in Belgium and Holland. It is many years since Herr Henselt visited this country, and he was only heard at some private performances. He is of a nervous, excitable temperament; and although his execution as a pianist is marked by extraordinary skill, it is but rarely that he will consent to appear in public. His pianoforte compositions are of more than ordinary interest. His concerto is one of his earliest productions, and it is to be regretted that he has published only this one, as he has other works of the same class in his portfolio which have not been heard except by a few professors and amateurs. The Concerto in f minor can only be characterized as in every way worthy of the distinguished pupil of Hummel. He imitates his master so far as to comprehend thoroughly the speciality or the genius of his instrument, the pianoforte. Moreover, Henselt, in the *tutti* of his concerto, displays a thorough appreciation of the *timbre* of the instruments he makes use of—in other words, he scores with power and picturesqueness. The first movement is so varied by solemn surprises and elaborate episodes, that it

may be regarded as too diffuse; but the slow movement in D flat is a continuous song, a novel and curious effect being produced by a passage in which two trombones play with the pianoforte. The *allegro agitato* is a *finale* bristling with complexities, exacting from the execrable manipulation of marvellous ability, and here the powers of Herr Hans von Bulow shone conspicuously. Anything more masterly and brilliant it is impossible to conceive. It was as remarkable for certainty as it was for expression. Audience and artists "rose" at the pianist as he finished his herculean task. After the 'Faust' Overture of Herr Wagner, and the *andante* of Schubert's unfinished symphony, a work, dry in its idealty, but having some clever effects, Herr von Bulow had the remainder of the second part to himself. He gave Chopin's Nocturne, Op. 9, No. 3, and Valse, Op. 42, the Abbé Liszt's 'Fantaisie Hongroise,' and his own 'Marche des Impériaux.' In the Hungarian work, the composer has seemingly striven to combine with point and piquancy difficulties which must tax even his own unlimited facility; but the pupil proved that he had profited by his master's example: there were some concluding scales which defied guesswork as to the *modus operandi* of the fingers. It was two days after this Popular Concert that an assemblage of artists and amateurs, including the leading connoisseurs of Brussels, took place at the Salle de la Société Royale de la Philharmonie (an Association which is an offshoot of the ancient club, Salle de la Grande Harmonie, and the more modern Cercle Artistique et Littéraire of the Parc), to listen to a pianoforte programme, played by Herr von Bulow alone. The pieces were Chopin's grand Sonata in A minor; Scarlatti's 'Fuga del Gatto'; Rheinberger's *Andante* and *Toccata*, Op. 12; Mozart's 'Minuet et Gigue'; Beethoven's Variations and Fugue in E *bémol* (containing the theme of the *finale* of the 'Eroica' Symphony); Schumann's 'Carnaval de Vienne,' Op. 26 (five numbers); Herr Liszt's 'Polish National Song' (transcribed); Mazurka Brillant; and Schubert's 'Valse Paraphrases' (Soirées de Vienne). In all these varied schools of classic chamber composition, Herr von Bulow showed his mastery. He has all the elements of exceptional pianists; he has intellectuality, instinct and individuality, touch, taste and tact, phrasing and power. His mental culture must be enormous, for the orchestral pieces performed at the Concerts Populaires, and the fourteen works at the Recital, were one and all executed from memory, a prodigious feat indeed. He has the advantage of being able to identify himself with the style of the composers whose productions he interprets, and, whilst developing their attributes, his precision and certainty may be confidently relied upon, even in the most complex and startling scales.

Herr Wagner's 'Tannhäuser' is in active preparation at the Théâtre de la Monnaie. The Belgian professors and amateurs are much divided in opinion as to the merits of the operas of innovation. 'Lohengrin,' however, found favour in Brussels, and it is possible that the 'Tannhäuser' may please sufficiently, until Madame Nilsson-Rouzaud arrives in Brussels to sing in the 'Traviata' of Verdi, the 'Marta' of Flotow, and the 'Hamlet' of M. Ambroise Thomas. M. Avrillon, the lessee, has also engaged M. Faure for some representations. Despite the State subsidy of 8,000*l.* to the Grand Opera-house, the manager has not been successful,—a result which he ascribes to the necessity of having to pay two distinct troupes one for Opéra Comique and one for Grand Opéra, besides the ballet, and to the temperament of the audiences, who are most fastidious as regards principal singers, expecting a Falcon or Duprez, a Patti or Nilsson to be permanently in the troupe. At the Alcazar, now called the Fantaisies-Parisiennes, M. Leocq's last three-act comic opera, 'La Fille du Madame Angot,' fills the theatre to overflow every night, so much so, that two evenings have been devoted exclusively to the non-smoking audiences. The music is charming, and the libretto, a story of the Directory and of the Halles of Paris, is amusing.

MADAME ARABELLA GODDARD.

It will naturally be supposed that the reception of our most accomplished pianist, at her farewell concert in St. James's Hall, on the 11th inst., was earnest and enthusiastic. The audience evidently regretted the premature loss of a popular favourite whilst still in the plenitude of her powers and in the zenith of her fame. It is however stated most positively that, so far as regards this country, Madame A. Goddard will play no more in public. The resolution is to be deplored, as the transformation of style which has, of late years, marked her playing, has placed her in the front rank of leading pianists. It may be remembered that she made her *début* as a child prodigy, who could play the music of her master, Thalberg, with the utmost ease, and at the same time could attack Bach's fugues. But for some years her fame was that of a fantasia executant, and her delicacy of touch originated the belief that her ability was confined to the "musical snuff-box school" of manipulation. The records of the Monday Popular Concerts, of the Philharmonic Society, of the Crystal Palace Concerts, and of our provincial Festivals, show how completely the lady has abandoned light and frivolous show-pieces, and devoted herself to the solid and erudite works of the masterminds of all schools. Whether in the concerto, with full orchestra, or in the sonata, with or without aid of other instruments, Madame Goddard took the highest ground, and fairly and artistically won her honours in spite of early prejudices and interested partizanship. Her playing on Tuesday evening was of the highest order, as regards touch, tone, expression, and execution. In the quality of certainty in the most intricate scales, Madame Goddard has rarely been equalled; and this, indeed, is a great speciality. The pieces selected were Woelf's "No plus ultra" Sonata, with its somewhat *rococo*, albeit difficult, variations on "Life let us cherish"; Thalberg's setting of "Home, sweet home"; Mendelssohn's Pianoforte and Violoncello Sonata in D major, Op. 58, with Signor Piatti; and Haydn's Trio in G major, allied with Mr. Carrodus, violin, and Signor Piatti. The singing was unusually good. Mr. E. Lloyd officiated for Mr. Sims Reeves, who was unwell, and sang Beethoven's 'Adelaide,' accompanied by Madame Goddard, and Mendelssohn's air, "If with all your hearts." He quite secured the sympathy of his hearers by the excellent pronunciation of his words (a quality which cannot be too highly commended in these days of muttering vocalists), and by his sound style. Mr. Santley declaimed Meyerbeer's 'Monk' with dramatic power, and to a ballad by Signor Piatti, —a setting of Mr. Tennyson's poetry, "O swallow, swallow," admirably accompanied by violoncello and pianoforte (Sir J. Benedict), he imparted an interest and importance which otherwise the song could not have gained, as it was but a cold and conventional notation of the poet's varied imagery.

CONCERTS.

THE series of concerts given by the members of M. Gounod's Choir commenced on the 8th. The programme of the first part comprised M. Gounod's 'Requiem,' 'Pater Noster,' and a chorus, "Omnipotent Lord"; the contralto air of Handel, "He was despised" ('Messiah'); and the Violin Prelude, after J. S. Bach, by M. Gounod. This sacred selection was succeeded in the second part by part-songs, 'Gitanelle,' and 'Bright Star of Eve,' by M. Gounod, and 'March of the Men of Harlech,' sung by the choir; two vocal duets, one given by a soprano and tenor, and the other by soprano and alto; the ballad of the 'Maid of Athens' (M. Gounod); two tenor airs; and another violin solo, the 'Tarantelle' of M. Sainton. Out of fourteen pieces, ten were by M. Gounod, who officiated as accompanist and conductor. With all due respect for the genius of the gifted composer, we cannot help saying that the scheme required relief, the more so, as in the sacred style of M. Gounod there is a lack of variety. His 'Pater Noster,' 'Requiem,' and 'Omnipotent Lord' are from the same mould, and this mannerism does not tend to

provoke interest. He shows solemnity and breadth in his chords, but is very summary in workmanship—witness the fugue in the "Amen," abruptly ended, almost before it was properly opened. The "Sanctus" was the most striking number in the 'Requiem,' but M. Gounod's choir served him badly; the voices, some seventy-five in number, were not well balanced, and their intonation at times was painfully defective. As no names of the solo singers were supplied,—they were called simply "Members of the Choir,"—it is not for us to interfere with their *incognito*; and perhaps, as there is no temptation to do so, except in the cases of a boy alto and a tenor, it is just as well to accept the anonymous. The best choral display was in the Welsh National air; but on the whole the choir commenced indifferently, and will require more training, and the solo singing was that of very mild amateurism. The fiddling of precocious boyhood had better be dispensed with—it is quite foreign to the objects of the Association. Dr. Stainer presided at the harmonium, but had little to do: the instrument ought to have been used in M. Gounod's charming Bach 'Rêverie,' as well as the piano to sustain the violin part.

The new overture, 'Winter's Tale,' might just as well have been called 'A Summer's Story,' for it had more kinship in point of warmth with Autolycus, the Pedlar, than with Hermione, the Queen. The prelude of Mr. John Francis Barnett, is vigorous, but not suggestive; scholastic, but not imaginative. It is not likely to remain in the *répertoire* of the British Orchestral Society, the Directors of which must be praised for the encouragement, however limited, that they give to our native composers. Mr. Barnett conducted his work; and had the duty of directing the Scotch Symphony of Mendelssohn, and the 'Egmont' Overture of Beethoven, been assigned to him, greater certainty and a better reading might have been secured. From the want of proper control, there is much waste of fine tone, and energy in the use of the band. Two ballads, one by Mr. Sullivan, "Over the roof and over the wall," from a MS. opera, 'The Sapphire Necklace,' and the other by Mr. F. Clay, "The shades of evening close around," given by Mr. E. Lloyd, were both favourable specimens of the powers of the composers, especially the former one; but they were not well accompanied, and the singers scarcely realized the intent of the words. Sir W. S. Bennett's quartet, "God is a spirit" (an unaccompanied glee), sung by Miss E. Wynne, Miss J. Elton, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Lewis Thomas, met with the usual re-demand. The *début* of a young lady pianist, in Chopin's Polonaise in E flat, was obviously a mistake.

Schumann's dull and dreary setting of Moore's 'Paradise and the Peri' was not calculated to excite the enthusiasm of the Crystal Palace auditory of the 8th inst., the execution being as cold and cheerless as the day itself. The solos were sung by Mesdames Blanche Cole, K. Poyntz, A. Butterworth, Lewis, Jacobs, and J. Elton, Messrs. Cummings, Dudley Thomas, and Signor Foli.

Miss Agnes Zimmermann introduced, for the first time, at the Saturday Popular Concerts, on the 8th, Schubert's Pianoforte Sonata in A major, Op. 120, and was associated with Madame Norman-Néruda and Signor Piatti in Beethoven's Trio in E flat, Op. 1, No. 1. The other pieces were, Mendelssohn's String Quintet in B flat (posthumous), and Boccherini's Violoncello Sonata in A major. Mr. Maybrick, accompanied by Sir J. Benedict, sang M. Gounod's 'Nazareth' and Schubert's 'Wanderer.' Madame Schumann began her engagement on the 10th, by playing Beethoven's Sonata in E flat, Op. 81 ('Les Adieux, l'Absence, et le Retour'), and joined Madame Norman-Néruda and Signor Piatti in Schumann's Trio in D minor, Op. 63. The two string quartets were Mozart's in B flat, No. 3, and Haydn's in E flat, Op. 76, No. 6. Mdlle. Nita Gaetano sang Pergolesi's air, "Ogni pena più spietata," and Mr. Osborne's ballad, "The robin and the maiden."

The Royal Albert Hall Choral Society com-

menced its second season on the 12th, with Mr. Barnby conductor, *vice* M. Gounod. The oratorio was Bach's 'Passion' (St. Matthew), with Mesdames Florence Lancia and J. Elton, Mr. Cummings and Signor Foli, as solo singers.

There were no less than five *encores* at the performance of Sir Michael Costa's oratorio, 'Naaman,' by the Nottingham Choral Society, on the 6th; for the air, 'They shall be turned back,' brilliantly sung by Mdlle. Carola; for the child's song, 'I dreamt I was in heaven,' expressively given by Miss Enriquez; the air of Naaman, 'What! meaneth he,' declaimed vigorously by Mr. Vernon Rigby; the *pianissimo* march on the way to Jordan; and, finally, for the exciting quartet, 'Honour and glory' (Mesdames Carola and Enriquez, Messrs. Vernon Rigby and Santley). Mr. Santley's singing of the music of Elisha was most impressive. The fine quality of voice displayed by the Midland Counties chorals is specially referred to by our Correspondent; and Mr. Farmer, of Nottingham, a provincial violinist of fame, led with tact and effect a local band, strengthened by some leading London players. The pitch of the organ had been tuned to the ordinary concert diapason, so there was no hitch in an *ensemble* which reflected credit in every way on Nottingham.

We must reserve our notice of the Brighton Musical Festival, which was commenced on the 11th, and will not end before the 24th inst., until the conclusion of the performances. Herr Kuhe and Mr. Kingsbury are the conductors in ordinary; but Sir Michael Costa, Sir Julius Benedict, Sir Sterndale Bennett, and Mr. A. S. Sullivan, direct the execution of their own works. Miss Virginia Gabriel's new cantata, 'Evangeline,' on Longfellow's poem, was produced on the 13th inst.; and the Clarinet Andante, with orchestra, by Miss Alice Mary Smith (Mrs. White), was executed by Mr. Lazarus at the opening concert, the work having been previously performed at the Crystal Palace and at the last Norwich Festival.

Musical Gossip.

SOMETHING like an approximation to a joint effort to be made by the Royal Academy of Music, the Society of Arts, and the Commissioners of the Royal Albert Hall, for securing a really well-based National School of Music, has been attained, owing to the kind intervention of the Duke of Edinburgh. The meeting, referred to in last week's *Athenæum*, of the Directors and Committee of Management of the Tenterden Street Institution, took place last Saturday. The Earl of Dudley, the President, was in the chair, and at once proposed the addition of the Duke to the list of directors. This was agreed to, and His Royal Highness made a very judicious speech. After some discussion, it was agreed that a joint Committee of three Directors and three Professors should be nominated, to confer with the Royal Albert Hall officials. Sir W. Sterndale Bennett, the principal, Mr. Case (his son-in-law), and Mr. Bernard, were chosen to represent the Directors; and Sir W. S. Bennett, Mr. W. Dorrell, and Mr. G. A. Macfarren, to speak for the Professors. Sir Thomas Gladstone, one of the Vice-Presidents, strongly urged that there should be no delay in carrying out the scheme of removing the Academy to the Royal Albert Hall. The Duke of Edinburgh assured the meeting that, so far as regards the "vested rights" of existing Professors, they should be strictly respected. The objection as to the distance of the South Kensington edifice was met by the assurance that there will soon be a railway to land the visitors in the grounds of the Hall itself. There can be no doubt that this movement affords a prospect of our eventually having a Conservatoire, where there may be a free musical education, provided, of course, that Government support is sooner or later extended for art advancement.

The first concert of the Wagner Society will take place on the 19th inst., and the sixth and last concert of the British Orchestral Society on the 20th.

HAYDN'S 'Creation' was the oratorio performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society on the 14th, conducted by Sir Michael Costa.

The opening of the Italian Opera-house at Covent Garden is fixed for the 1st of April, and Drury Lane begins on the 15th (Easter Tuesday).

The eighteenth season of Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir will commence on the 27th inst.

At this Saturday's Crystal Palace Concert (the 15th), Herr Joachim will play Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, and a Serenade by Herr Brahms will be executed.

The London Gregorian Choral Association will hold a Festival Service in St. Paul's Cathedral, on Thursday next, at 8 p.m.

The American tour of Madame Adelina Patti is postponed till the year 1875, the operatic officials of St. Petersburg having succeeded in prolonging her stay in Russia for two more seasons. They have paid a large indemnity to Herr Maurice Strakosch, her brother-in-law, for cancelling the contract of the Transatlantic trip. Despite the popularity of Madame A. Patti and Madame Nilsson-Rouzeaud, it seems that the St. Petersburg amateurs have at length acknowledged the ability of Frau Mallinger, of Berlin, who had the misfortune to make her *début* as Adina ('Elisir d'Amore'), one of the pet parts of Madame Patti; having essayed Valentina in the 'Huguenots,' Frau Mallinger has achieved a great success. The Raoul was Signor Nicolini.

SUNDAY Classical Popular Concerts are spreading in Paris. The Directors of the new Porte-Saint Martin Theatre will commence a series when the edifice is opened; and the manager of the Odéon has also announced that he will provide for the students of the quarter classical concerts, the programmes of which will include a new oratorio, 'Maria Magdalena,' by M. J. Massenet, whose music for the Greek tragedy, 'Les Erinnyes,' recently produced at the Odéon, has given him a status which he had not won by his setting of 'Don César de Bazan.' The Ode Symphony, 'Le Feu de Ciel,' by M. Émile Guimet, of Lyons, which was performed last season in St. James's Hall, and was referred to in the *Athenæum* as a work of no ordinary power and originality, was executed last Sunday in Paris, at the Châtelet Theatre, with full orchestra and chorus, Mdlle. Marie Royer, of the Comédie Française, reciting the extracts from M. Victor Hugo's poem. The Ninth Symphony (Choral) of Beethoven was included in the Paris Conservatoire programme of the 9th. Madame Schumann, at the Brussels Conservatoire Concert last week, played Beethoven's Concerto in a, the symphony being by Schumann, in c. At the Gewandhaus, in Leipzig, at the fifteenth concert, two novelties were given, one, music illustrating Schiller's 'Song of the Bell,' by Herr Stoer; and the other an Overture by Herr Winding.

New operas in Germany during the past year were few and far between. The journals record the production in Berlin of the 'Heir of Morley,' by Herr von Holstein, and 'Hermione' ('Winter's Tale'), by Herr Max Bruch: this work has been since played in other theatres; at Hombourg, the 'Cousin of Bremen,' by Herr Mohr, and 'Contarini,' by the late Dr. Pierson (an English composer); at Mannheim, 'Lisa; or, the Language of the Heart,' by Herr Mertke; at Brünn, the 'Zingara,' by Herr Fuchs; at Munich, 'The Village Lawyer,' by Herr Hornstein, and 'Theodore Körner,' by Herr Weisheimer; at Linz, the 'Village Musicians,' by Herr Thiele, and the 'Oracle of Delphis,' by Herr Ziehrer; and at Königsberg, 'Harold; or, the last Saxon King,' by Herr Carl Dullo.

If the information which reaches us of various engagements for the Alexandra Palace be correct, the long promised opening of the Northern Crystal Palace will really take place some time in May next. Music plays a large part in the plans of the Directors for the amusement and instruction of the visitors; and the appointment of Mr. H. Weist Hill, one of the leading violins of Sir Michael

Costa's orchestra, as conductor of the concerts, is an intimation that a first-class band will be secured to execute first-class music.

M. GOUNOD'S 'Roméo et Juliette' has enjoyed a fresh lease of popularity since the work has been reproduced at the Opéra Comique, and bids fair to have as long a run as it had in 1867, when first brought out at the Théâtre Lyrique. Madame Miolan-Carvalho remains the Juliet, and invests the character with the ideal beauty which distinguishes her Marguerite. M. Duchesne, the new Romeo, is a success, but he has been suffering from a cold; and M. Lhérier, who was ready, has come to the rescue. Auber's charming opera, 'Le Premier Jour de Bonheur,' is to be revived at the Salle Favart, with M. Lhérier *vice* Capoul, and Mdlle. Priola *vice* Madame Cabel.

At a meeting of the Paris Commission des Théâtres, under the presidency of M. Jules Simon, the Minister of Fine Arts, the lesseship of M. Lefort, for the Théâtre Italien, was approved. The new Director has already telegraphed to Italy for artists, to strengthen the troupe of M. Verger, *ex-impresario*. As regards the subsidy of 4,000*l.*, voted in the budget of 1872 and 1873, the Committee recommend the payment out of that grant of the arrears due to the company and the officials.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

THE attempt to present a reading of 'Hamlet' that shall pacify the critics and be popular with the general playgoer, is the most hopeless undertaking on which an actor can embark. It is more than doubtful whether any English-speaking actor exists who, putting on one side all thought of the "groundlings," could give a representation such as should secure a favourable verdict from a minority even of Shakespearean students. In the days when representations of Hamlet were popular, the character had not received the study since bestowed upon it. German criticism had not been written, or was wholly unknown in England, and a purely conventional presentation of a character very imperfectly understood was sufficient to stir audiences to enthusiasm. In modern days those impersonations of Hamlet are most popular which present most accurately the traditions of the past. Intellectual subtlety is not common among our actors, and it is not readily appreciated by our audiences. The few attempts that have been made to present the more intellectual phases of the nature of Hamlet have accordingly been failures, both as regards the reading and the play-going public, who in England, unfortunately, are not the same. The latter has resisted innovations it did not comprehend; the former has questioned the worth of the emendations of men whose scholarship was in the inverse ratio of their courage. What light has been cast upon the character of Hamlet has come from foreign sources. The Hamlet of Mr. Fechter attracted by its novelty and pleased by its picturesqueness. On the negative side it had much to recommend it. A whole host of absurd and irreverent traditions were swept away, and the atmosphere was the clearer for the process. On reflection, however, the most that can be said in favour of Mr. Fechter's Hamlet is that it is a step—a stride, if you will—in the right direction. The coming Hamlet will be nearer the Hamlet of Mr. Fechter than that of any living exponent of the part.

On Monday Mr. Bandmann made his first appearance in England as *Hamlet*. The knowledge prevailed generally that his impersonation of the character had excited angry demonstrations in America and elsewhere. Considerable interest was accordingly manifested, and the house on the opening night was crowded. English audiences are seldom malevolent, and in the case of a foreigner are not often mischievous. While a minority of the audience accordingly applauded the actor with no great warmth, the opinion of the majority showed itself in an increasing indifference, and in slight manifestations of discontent at the close of separate acts.

So far as Mr. Bandmann's presentation of *Hamlet* has any interest, it is as an embodiment of the views of the character prevalent among German actors. The value of the exposition is greatly diminished by want of grace and refinement. Mr. Bandmann not merely lacks the chivalrous bearing, which in Mr. Fechter does duty for passion, but is in scenes almost slouching. The princeliness of *Hamlet* disappears, and is replaced by a weak sentimentality. No touch of the irony, pathetic and savage in turns, of *Hamlet*, is found in the actor's performance. No sign is there, moreover, of the working of fate upon the mind. At the outset of each separate scene the life of *Hamlet* seems to start afresh,—

This year knows nothing of last year ;
To-morrow has no more to say
To yesterday.

Especially noticeable is this in the bearing of Mr. Bandmann when he sees the funeral of Ophelia. The first shock over, he moralizes as calmly as though the interest he felt in the dead body before him was as remote as that in the skull of Yorick he had previously exhibited.

Though the inadequacy of the acting detracted thus from the value of the experiment, the experiment itself is not without interest. Since the days of Emil Devrient, the German rendering of *Hamlet* has been much tamer than that customary in England. The points on which the English actor most insists are omitted, and the stage business, judged of most consequence, is allowed to lapse. This is not wholly loss, if, indeed, it is loss at all. There is something almost ludicrous in the notion of an audience waiting for a certain elevation or inflection of voice at a fixed word, and bursting into applause as soon as it hears it. Some tameness, however, seems inseparable from the best rendering of the part after the German fashion. The tendency to monotony Mr. Bandmann tries to counteract by inventing "business" of his own. This is wholly bad. His addressing to the picture of Claudius the strong words employed by *Hamlet* in his interview with the Queen, has some ground of reason, but his sudden recoil and fall when the Ghost appears, and his delivery in a recumbent attitude of the advice to his mother, are equally meaningless and ineffective. The omissions from the text, whether due to carelessness or inattention, are alike unjustifiable. The most noteworthy occurs in the scene to which reference has just been made. In this, the words following *Hamlet's* "Good Night,"—

But go not to my uncle's bed,
Assume a virtue if you have it not, &c.,

are omitted. A little previously the actor left out the lines,—

A station like the herald Mercury,
New lighted on a heaven-kissing hill.

Some scenes usually excised are, however, introduced. There is nothing to be said against the restoration of the scene in which Claudius, praying in his closet, is seen by *Hamlet*, who defers fulfilling the mandate of the Ghost until he can find the King about some act

That has no relish of salvation in 't,
or against the repetition of the Ghost's injunction to Horatio and Marcellus to swear secrecy, and the accompanying comments of *Hamlet*, so significant of his mental condition, both real and assumed.

That the experiment is wholly a failure, is due to want of judgment in certain scenes, and of expository power in all. To partial failure such an essay is doomed from the first.

'MARION DE LORME.'

Paris, Feb. 11, 1873.

IF M. Victor Hugo had not been away from Paris, engrossed with a forthcoming work, he might have seen that his are still the most popular plays on the French stage, and that the public taste is not hopelessly corrupted, since it applauds a romantic drama more zealously than the buffooneries of M. Offenbach and the scurrilities of MM. Meilhac and Halévy. Indeed, there are unmistakable signs of change for the better in the tone of the French stage and the dramatic leanings of the Parisians. Was not Dumas *fil's* 'Femme de Claude' a failure, or nearly so? Let us hope that with the Empire will die the detestable style which pervaded for many years nearly all French theatres, and threatened at one time to destroy the far-famed dramatic art of France.

'Marion de Lorme,' or *De l'Orme*, as Tallemant des Réaux spells the name of the Phryne of the Court of Louis the Thirteenth was played last night at the Théâtre Français, after lying by for twenty years owing to the Imperial censorship. In the absence of Victor Hugo, his faithful friend, M. Paul Meurice, watched the rehearsals, which were followed with more than ordinary attention by the authorities of the Comédie. M. Perrin, formerly of the Opera, and now the manager of the first of French theatres, did all in his power to produce Hugo's drama with a *mise en scène* worthy of the work. The result is such an *ensemble* as has been rarely witnessed in the course of dramatic history. 'Marion de Lorme' is well known, and the plot hardly needs to be given. Victor Hugo, in his attempts to raise the creatures disgraced by nature and by men, or fallen to the lowest depths of human life, has always been sublime. 'Quasimodo,' 'Triboulet,' 'Ruy Blas,' and 'Marion de Lorme,' are creations which will confer on their author the immortal honour of having always written in favour of humanity, and never belied the task he set before himself in the first days of his career. 'Marion de Lorme' was, in the reign of Louis the Thirteenth, the star of what we should now call the *demi-monde*. The brilliant court of the dummy king surrounded her and shared her favours; nor did the literary celebrities of the day disdain Marion's company.

Whether there is any private story or adventure on which M. Hugo based his drama, we cannot say; all we know of the bewitching Marion de Lorme is, what Tallemant des Réaux tells us; and that is little beyond various details concerning her family, and her dissolute life. M. Hugo nevertheless chose her for his heroine; and it is obvious that he embodied in a notorious name, by preference, the dramatic subject he wished to develop. Marion meets, in her career of pleasure and debauchery, a man through whom her heart learns, for the first time, what is love. The courtesan disappears from her Parisian admirers, and flies to Blois with her lover, Didier. He

knows not who she is, and believes Marion to be an angel of purity and innocence. The whole interest of the drama turns on Didier's discovery of Marion's identity, the efforts of the unhappy woman to redeem her past, and the inflexibility of her lover, only conquered at the foot of the scaffold, in one of the most heart-rending scenes which ever moved the most indifferent public. Whatever may be said of some features of the dramatic construction of the work, there is no doubt that M. Hugo seldom rose higher than in this grand and austere rehabilitation of woman, to whatever step of degradation she may have sunk. Some may prefer 'Ruy Blas' for dramatic skill, others 'Le Roi s'amuse' for pregnancy of ideas; but for tenderness of expression, for loftiness of conception, and for sustained interest, 'Marion de Lorme' may be compared with any of the plays which freed the stage from the bonds of convention, and the poverty of language and idea which might, indeed, have brought French literature to a sorrowful plight.

Last night's performance was announced as the exact rendering of the original piece, unavoidably altered thirty years ago. Some verses hitherto suppressed we heard in the course of the play; but other tirades—especially in the scene of the first act, between Marion and Didier—were considerably shortened. This is to be regretted as unnecessary, for the first act strikes as being rather short. The readers of the *Athenæum* have read some weeks ago the names of the actors who were announced in the principal characters. The first act was rather coldly received, notwithstanding the grand acting of Mlle. Favart as Marion, and MM. Mounet-Sully and Delaunay as Didier, and the volatile Saverny. We could not bestow enough praise on the clever performance of M. Delaunay; and when Mlle. Favart answered to her maid, who asked her what she "did with her lover,"

Il m'aime,

every one in the house felt that she had grappled with her part in earnest, and would add another to her long roll of grand creations.

The second act brought forward M. Got as *L'Angely*; and the lively scene between the young officers, who discuss the merits of the favourite authors of the day, and call Corneille "*un gredin*," dispelled every symptom of frigidity, and prepared the house for the splendid fourth act, sustained by M. Bressant as Louis XIII., M. Maubant as the old *Marquis de Nangis*, M. Got, and Mlle. Favart. We have seen many fine exhibitions on the boards of the French Comédie, but we do not remember anything which has surpassed the admirable acting of these accomplished artists. It is worth going to the Comédie Française only to hear M. Maubant deliver the verses in which he implores the clemency of the King; and as to MM. Got and Bressant, the greatest eulogy that can be given them is, that they are still the finest models of refined and unimpeachable comedians in Paris. We must not forget to mention MM. Febvre and Thiron, the latter one of the cleverest members of the Comédie. The fifth act, like the first, was entirely supported by MM. Delaunay and Mounet-Sully and Mlle. Favart. The first gave the finishing touch to an impersonation we should pronounce the best in the drama, if it were possible to rank justly by order of merit actors who all possess their own peculiar talents, and displayed them yesterday to their full advantage. To sum up, the revival of 'Marion de Lorme' is a success,—a success which must gladden the hearts of all true lovers of art, and prepare a golden harvest for the Théâtre Français. M. Mounet-Sully, a young tragedian, whose *début* in 'Le Cid' attracted much attention, made of Didier more than might have been reasonably expected. In the agonies of his grief, when he discovers the position of Marion, and Saverny congratulates him on his good fortune, the words of despair, grief, and bitter irony—

Est-ce pas
Que je suis heureux ?

and all that followed was much to his credit

Let him give up his frantic gestures, his wild screams, and unpleasant ranting, and the Comédie Française may one day be justly proud of him.
E.

Dramatic Gossip.

A DRAMA, entitled 'Passion,' was produced on last Saturday morning at the Vaudeville Theatre. The play, which was commonplace in plot and language, acquired from the acting the sort of interest usually attached to burlesque. From this censure, however, Mr. H. Neville, who played finely, and Miss Edith Lynd, must be excepted.

THE death is announced of Miss Maria B. Jones, a young actress of considerable promise, best known by her performance of Helen Douglas in the recent version of 'The Lady of the Lake,' produced at Drury Lane Theatre.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold, on Monday last, a small collection of engraved theatrical portraits. Among them were, Mrs. F. Abington, after Sir Joshua Reynolds, by Eliz. Judkins, 11l.—Signora Baccoli, as a Bacchante, after Sir Joshua Reynolds, by Smith, 6l. 7s. 6d.—The same, after Gainsborough, by Jones, 23l.—Thomas Betterton, after Kneller, by Williams, 8l. 15s.—Mrs. Catherine Clive, as the fine Lady, in 'Lethé,' by Mosley, 7l.—Nell Gwynn, with her two Sons, after Lely, 7l. 11s.—The same, after P. Cross, 9l. 9s.—Mrs. Robinson (Perdita), after Sir Joshua Reynolds, by Dickinson, 11l.—The same, after Romney (Sir R. Wallace's picture), by Smith, 14l. 5s.—Signora Schindlerin, after Sir Joshua Reynolds, by Smith, 11l. 12s. 6d.—Lady Hamilton as St. Cecilia, by Kesting, and as Nature, by Smith, 11l.—Mrs. Siddons as Zara, after Lawrence, &c., 17l. The collection realized 693l. 1s. 6d.

'LES JURONS DE CADILLAC,' a one-act comedy of M. Pierre Berton, has been given at the French plays, and adequately supported by M. Didier and Madame Therval. 'Le Voyage en Chine,' a comic opera of MM. Labiche and Delacour, has also been presented. Among forthcoming pieces are, 'Les Ganaches,' of M. Sardou, and 'Tricocoe et Cacolet,' of MM. Meilhac and Halévy. From this it appears that the strictness of the censorship has been relaxed.

MADAME MARIE LAURENT has appeared at the Odéon, as Phédre. Her success in this grandest rôle of Racine, following upon her fine presentation of Klytæmnestra, establishes her right to be considered one of the principal of living tragedians.

THE minor novelties of the past week in Paris have consisted of the revival, at the Ambigu Comique, of 'Le Drame de la Rue de la Paix,' of M. A. Belot, and that of 'Les Femmes que font des Scènes,' of MM. Monselet and Lemonnier, at the Théâtre Déjazet.

Two political plays, by Herr Adolf Friedrich von Schack, have been published by Brockhaus, of Leipzig, entitled 'Der Kaiserbote' and 'Cancan.'

AT the Berlin Royal Schauspielhaus, last year's season was closed with Shakespeare's tragedy, 'Richard the Second,' which was performed with success. Amongst the novelties brought out, the *Illustrirte Zeitung* mentions 'Ein amerikanisches Duell,' by Gustav von Moser, and 'Die Pathe des Cardinals,' by Friedrich Meyer von Waldeck.

IN Sicily dramatic composition appears to flourish, although the works do not have the opportunity of performance on the stage. Amongst recent pieces are a drama, 'Un Passo Obbliga l'Altro,' by Signor Giuffrida; a tragedy, 'Filippo Re di Macedonia,' by Francesco Grillo di Roccavaldini; and a well-written comedietta by Giovanni Siciliano, entitled 'L'Uomo Pubblico e l'Uomo Privato,' which will be performed in Italy.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—C. R.—J. T. H.—K. T.—R. H. W.—L. C. G.—N. Garland—F. W. S.—A. B.—T. C. J.—W. L.—J. W. G.—received.

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The Subsisting Assurances and Bonuses amount to .. £3,733,799

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES.

CREDIT SYSTEM.—On any Policy for the whole duration of a

healthy Life, where the age does not exceed 60, one-half of the Annual

Premiums during the first five years may remain on credit.

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCES may be effected, without Profits,

by which the Sum Assured becomes payable on the attainment of a

specified age, or at death, whichever event shall first happen.

INVALID LIVES may be assured at rates proportioned to the

increased risk.

PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.—Claims paid thirty days

after proof of death.

BONUS.

The Reversionary Bonus at the Quinquennial Division in January,

1872 (amounting to £23,271), averaged 40 per Cent., and the Cash

Bonus 20 per Cent., on the Premiums paid in the five years.

The next DIVISION OF PROFITS will take place in January, 1873,

and Persons who effect New Policies before the end of June next will

be entitled at that Division to one year's additional share of Profits

over later Entrants.

REPORT, 1872.

The Annual Report just issued, and the Balance Sheets for the

year ending June 30, 1872, as rendered to the Board of Trade, can be

obtained of any of the Society's Agents, or of

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LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1836.

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Paid-up Capital, 1,000,000l.; ditto in course of payment, 200,000l.
Reserve Fund, 500,000l.; ditto in course of payment, 100,000l.

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Secretary—George Gough, Esq.

Head Office—21, Lombard-street.

Manager—Whitbread Tomson, Esq.

Assistant-Manager—William Howard, Esq.

At the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Proprietors, held on THURSDAY, the 6th of February, 1873, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street Station, the following REPORT for the half-year ending the 31st of December, 1872, was read by the Secretary, FREDERICK FRANCIS, Esq., in the Chair.

The Directors, in submitting to the Proprietors the balance-sheet of the Bank for the half-year ending the 31st of December last, have the pleasure to report that, after paying interest to customers, and all charges, allowing for rebate, and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, the net profit amount to 104,531. 11s. 6d. This sum, added to the balance carried forward from the last account, produces a total of 115,478. 11s. 6d.

The Directors recommend the payment of the customary dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year, with a bonus of 4 per cent., both free of income-tax, which will amount to 100,000l., and leave 547. 11s. 6d. as a reserve to meet interest accrued on new shares, and 14,936. 11s. to be carried forward to Profit and Loss New Account. The present dividend and bonus added to the June payment will make 20 per cent. for the year 1872.

The Directors who retire by rotation are:—William Champion Jones, Esq., Edward Harbord Lushington, Esq., and Frederick Youle, Esq., who are eligible for re-election, and offer themselves accordingly. The dividend and bonus, together with 2l. per share, free of income-tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the Branches, on or after Monday, the 17th inst.

Balance-Sheet of the London and County Banking Company, 31st December, 1872.

Dr.		
To Capital paid up	£1,000,000 0 0	
To Instalment received in respect of new Capital	90,240 0 0	£1,090,240 0 0
To Reserve Fund	500,000 0 0	
To Instalment received in respect of new Capital	40,120 0 0	540,120 0 0
To Amount due by the Bank for Customers' Balances, &c.	16,974,495 0 0	
To Liabilities on Acceptances, covered by Securities	4,243,844 19 7	£21,215,839 19 4
To Profit and Loss Balance brought from last Account	10,634 11 10	
To Gross Profit for the half-year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts, viz.	261,077 11 1	371,712 2 11
		£23,037,412 2 3

Cr.

By Cash on hand at Head Office and Branches, with Bank of England £2,447,371 8 5 | |

By Cash placed at Call and at Notice, covered by Securities 2,553,751 1 11 | £4,731,122 10 |

By Investments, viz.:—
Government and Guaranteed Stocks 1,871,509 6 9 | |

Other Stocks and Securities 110,738 15 0 | 1,982,247 6 9 |

By Discounted Bills, and Advances to Customers in Town and Country 12,000,252 17 5 | |

By Liabilities of Customers for Drafts accepted by the Bank (as per Contract) 4,243,844 18 7 | 16,345,097 16 0 |

By Freehold Premises in Lombard-street and Nicholas-lane, Freehold and Leasehold Property at the Branches, with Fixtures and Fittings 268,234 19 9 | |

By Interest paid to Customers 96,062 17 10 | |

By Salaries and all other Expenses at Head Office and Branches, including Income-Tax on Profits and Salaries 116,418 13 7 | £23,037,412 2 3 |

Profit and Loss Account.

Dr.		
To Interest paid to Customers, as above	£96,062 17 9	
To Expenses, as above	116,418 13 7	
To Rebate on Bills not due, carried to New Account	43,752 10 3	
To Dividend of 6 per cent. for Half-year	60,000 0 0	
To Bonus of 4 per cent.	40,000 0 0	
To Reserve to meet interest accrued on New Shares	541 13 4	
To Balance carried forward	14,936 8 0	£371,712 2 11

Cr.

By Balance brought forward from last Account £10,634 11 10 | |

By Gross Profit for the Half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful Debts 261,077 11 1 | £371,712 2 11 |

We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing balance-sheet, and have found the same to be correct.

(Signed) W. M. JARDINE, } Auditors.
WILLIAM NORMAN,
RICHARD H. SWAIN,

London and County Bank, 30th January, 1873.

The foregoing Report having been read by the Secretary, the following Resolutions were proposed, and unanimously adopted:—

1. That the Report be received and adopted, and printed for the use of the Shareholders.

2. That a dividend of 6 per cent., together with a Bonus of 4 per cent., both free of income-tax, be declared for the half-year ending the 31st of December, 1872, payable on or after Monday, the 17th inst., and that the sum of 541. 13s. 4d. be reserved to meet interest accrued on New Shares, and the balance of 14,936. 8s. be carried to Profit and Loss New Account.

3. That William Champion Jones, Edward Harbord Lushington, and Frederick Youle, Esquires, be re-elected Directors of this Company.

4. That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Board of Directors for the able manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Company.

5. That William Jardine, William Norman, and Richard Hinds Swaine, Esquires, be elected Auditors for the current year, and that the thanks of this Meeting be presented to them for their services during the past year.

6. That the thanks of this Meeting be presented to the General Managers, and to all the other Officers of the Bank, for the zeal and ability with which they have discharged their respective duties.

FREDERICK FRANCIS, Chairman.
(Signed) WILLIAM NICOL, Deputy-Chairman.

Extracted from the Minutes.
(Signed) GEORGE GOUGH, Secretary.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND on the Capital of the Company, at the rate of 6 per cent. for the half-year ending 31st of December, 1872, with a BONUS of 4 per cent., will be PAID to the Proprietors, either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard-street, or at any of the Company's Branch Banks, on or after MONDAY, the 17th inst.

By order of the Board,
W. M'KEWAN, } Joint General Managers.
WHITBREAD TOMSON, }
Lombard-street, February 6th, 1873.

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Good Maple or Oak ..	15s. 6d.	20s. 6d.	24s. 6d.
Best Polished Pine ..	22s. 6d.	28s. 6d.	34s. 6d.
Mahogany, Circular Marble tops ..	38s. 6d.	48s. 6d.	58s. 6d.
Best do. Square Marble tops ..	63s. 6d.	70s. 6d.	87s. 6d.

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Good Maple or Oak ..	3 ft.	3 ft. 6 in.	4 ft.
Best Polished Pine ..	22s. 6d.	28s. 6d.	34s. 6d.
Best Mahogany ..	73s. 6d.	94s. 6d.	104s. 6d.
Best Mahogany ..	94s. 6d.	104s. 6d.	130s. 6d.

DRESSING TABLES

Good Maple or Oak ..	3 ft.	3 ft. 6 in.	4 ft.
Best Polished Pine ..	17s. 6d.	21s. 6d.	24s. 6d.
Best Mahogany, Drawers ..	32s. 6d.	38s. 6d.	44s. 6d.
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Good Maple or Oak ..	4 ft.	4 ft. 6 in.	5 ft.
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No.	At Five Guineas per Annum.	Per Qr.
3. Rosewood or Walnut, 3 stops	At Six Guineas per Annum.	1 6 3
3 bis. In Oak Case, 7 stops	At Ten Guineas per Annum.	1 11 6
5. Rosewood, Walnut, or Oak, 11 stops	At Thirteen Guineas per Annum.	2 12 6
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